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The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy

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THE OFFICIAL FEDERAL JOURNAL of the ASSOCIATED PHARMACEUTICAL ORGANISATIONS of AUSTRALIA

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April 30, 1954

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Preliminary Examination.—May 12, 1954.

Intermediate Examination.—November 22, 1954.

Final Examination.—May 26, 1954.

Entries for the Preliminary and Intermediate Examinations close fourteen days, and for the Final Examination twenty-one days, before the date of commencement of the Examination.

Full details obtainable from the office of the Board.

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P. E. COSGRAVE,
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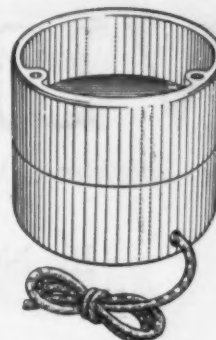
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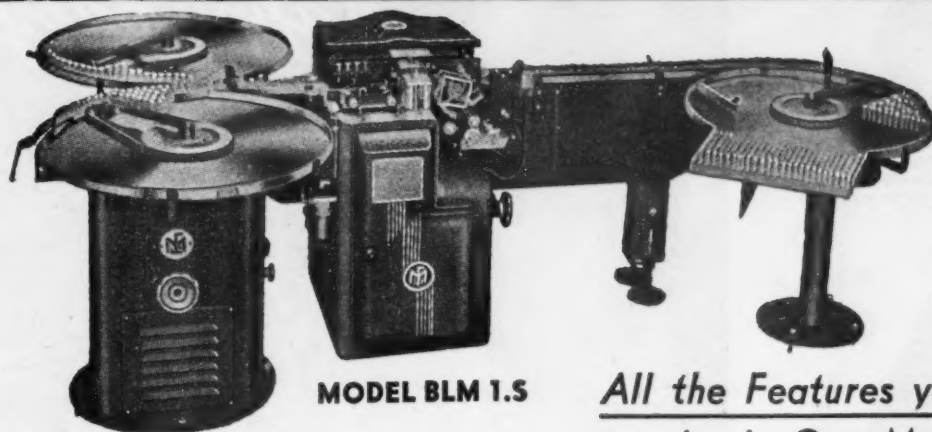
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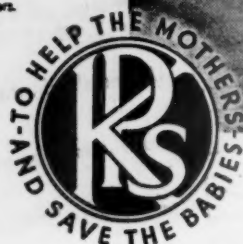


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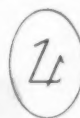
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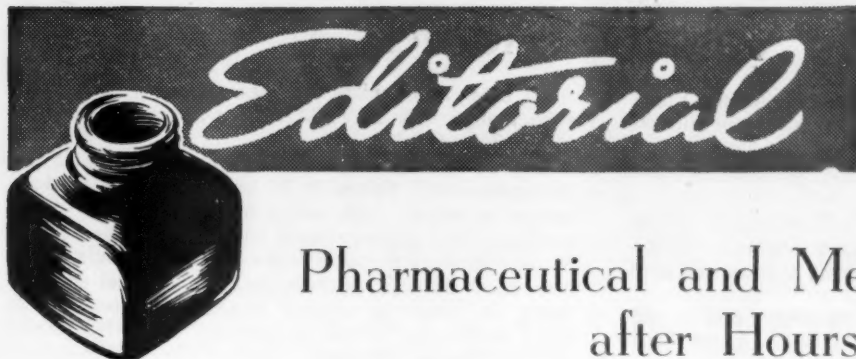


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New Series: Vol. 35—No. 412

Old Series: Vol. LXIX—No. 820

April 30, 1954

Pharmaceutical and Medical Services after Hours

In Victoria the medical profession has been widely criticised and has received adverse publicity following a report that a woman in need of medical attention during a week-end was unable to obtain it, and in New South Wales last month great prominence was given to a report that a chemist had been fined for keeping his doors open after the fixed closing time because he said he was providing an emergency dispensing service which he could not do economically unless he sold other goods.

We are not particularly concerned with the rights or wrongs of these two cases, but rather with the principle involved.

Practitioners of pharmacy, medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, etc., render services which are distinct from practically every type of professional service. Their services are concerned with the preservation of life and health. They are needed—sometimes desperately—in time of emergency or crisis, and if they are not available at call, those who so urgently need them are apt to think that their service to the community is a secondary consideration with them. That is bad.

We are, of course, primarily concerned with the pharmaceutical profession. Once we were prone to boast that "Your chemist is more than a merchant." We do not hear that slogan so frequently nowadays, but our organisations in propaganda and negotiations stress the standard of service which pharmacy gives. Generally speaking, that is true. Service for the most part is given to the point of self-sacrifice.

But it must be admitted there are gaps. Some areas may be left at times without a pharmaceutical service, and as long as that condition exists we are compelled to acknowledge that we have failed—partially at least—to fulfil our obligation.

At a deputation to the New South Wales Minister of Labour and Industry on March 30, 1954, representatives of the New South Wales Branch of the Federated Pharmaceutical Service Guild said that present trading hours of chemists were quite adequate.

The President of the Guild, Mr. L. W. Smith, and the Secretary, Mr. A. E. Conolly, who led the deputation, told Mr. Lapda, the Minister, that anyone having

an urgent prescription from a doctor could have it made up at any hour of day or night.

Arrangements, Mr. Smith said, had been made with the B.M.A. for doctors to mark urgent prescriptions as such. Doctors then advised their patients to communicate with a police station which would direct them to the chemist on late duty.

One chemist in each district was always available, and the local police station always knew which one. Five hundred New South Wales chemists were co-operating in the scheme.

The New South Wales Guild is to be commended on these arrangements, and other States which have not organised emergency services might well follow suit.

What is most essential is that the services provided should be—

- (a) sufficiently comprehensive to provide all urgently needed medicines. (From practical experience we know that a state of urgency can exist when no prescriptions marked "Urgent" from a doctor are readily available);
- (b) that the people should know about the service.

A correspondent signing himself "M.B., Ch.M.," writing in "The Sydney Morning Herald" on March 29, stated that chemists' shops in the City of Sydney, although not open in the evening, were a blaze of light. This, he said, was most misleading. He drew attention to the fact that in Switzerland chemists had a roster which was published every week in the newspapers, and he expressed the opinion that some such simple system could be introduced in Australia.

We do not, of course, want unrestrained competition in the field of after-hour dispensing. Apart from any other consideration, that would be uneconomical, and could lead to abuse. On the other hand, we feel that pharmacy is bound to make suitable provision for meeting the urgent requirements of the public to make widely known how and where such services are available.

If we do not do this, it is inevitable that sooner or later someone else will.

A Valuable Address

The address of Mr. E. G. Hall, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, at the Annual General Meeting of members held in March, and reported in this issue of the Journal, provides material for thought.

Mr. Hall is a young man. He is President of a very important body. He has demonstrated that he is capable of fresh approach to old problems and that he can give clear expression to his ideas.

These qualifications fit him for leadership and should enable him to secure support for a commendable idea such as the one he has put forward.

Every member of the pharmaceutical profession who is jealous of its corporate reputation must be worried at the frequency of reports of unethical, irregular and dishonest practices which have been made public in recent months. Accordingly, any action which is suggested to eliminate or reduce such practices should receive a great deal of support. We hope, therefore, that Mr. Hall's suggestions will not, like many other good proposals which have been made from time to time, be put aside and forgotten.

In his paper Mr. Hall examines critically various methods by which the problem may be dealt with. He sets aside a Governmental Committee, the Pharmacy Board and the State Branch Committee of the Guild in favour of the State Pharmaceutical Society as the most suitable body to impose disciplinary control for members of the profession, and he backs his opinion by quoting the opinions of lawyers as to the legality and practicability of his suggestion.

All must agree with the ideal stated by Mr. Hall, even though they may differ from him as to methods to be adopted.

Any action in the direction suggested should be Australia-wide. Unless it be so, it will not produce maximum effect. This sets a problem because of the legislative and organisational differences in the various States. In some States it might be difficult for a Pharmaceutical Society to obtain the right of legal enforcement of rules governing professional conduct. In some States that power is already vested by statute in the Pharmacy Boards.

There is a good deal, however, that the Pharmaceutical Societies might do, and thereby win back some of the influence which they have, in some instances, lost since the advent of the Guild.

As bodies specifically dealing with the ethical, technical and educational aspects of pharmaceutical activity the Pharmaceutical Societies should set great store on the ethics of the profession. They (and for that matter other pharmaceutical organisations) might well insist upon observance of a high standard of ethical conduct from all their members and introduce a penalty of expulsion for those who offend. They could with great advantage concentrate on an educational programme directed towards elevation of professional and ethical standards and the wiping out of irregular and dishonest practices.

For the Societies to condone or ignore serious breaches of the ethical code or to remain aloof or indifferent in these matters cannot but lead to a lessening of their prestige.

THE MONTH

DEATH OF MR. G. A. MALLINSON

One of the great figures in pharmacy in Great Britain—Mr. G. A. Mallinson, O.B.E., M.P.S.—passed away on December 31, 1953, at the age of 76.

Mr. Mallinson was foundation Secretary of the National Pharmaceutical Union, powerful and influential organisation of retail chemists of Great Britain, and counterpart, on a wider and greater scale, of the Federated Pharmaceutical Service Guild of Australia.

Senior pharmaceutical representatives from Australia who have visited Great Britain and met Mr. Mallinson were greatly impressed with his personality and drive. The National Pharmaceutical Union with all its ramifications stands as a monument to his great enthusiasm for the advancement of pharmacy, particularly in the commercial field.

British pharmaceutical journals carry many tributes to this great leader in the field of pharmacy. Sir Hugh Linstead indicates his strength of character and individuality in the following words: "Those were days when the very virtues which made Mallinson so massive a leader of the Union—his courage, determination and

singleness of purpose—sometimes rendered it difficult for the Union and the Pharmaceutical Society to reach an understanding. It was then that the late A. R. Melhuish, having said his say at Bloomsbury Square, would sally forth to 'wrestle with the Yorkshire man,' as he would call it, in a search for compromise and harmony."

Of him, Mr. H. Noble, in a tribute published in "The Pharmaceutical Journal," says: "There cannot be a pharmacist engaged in business who has not benefited from the work of George Arthur Mallinson."

WAR AGAINST QUACKS

The "Adelaide News" on April 7, 1954, referring to a statement by Mr. Cremean, M.H.R., concerning the need for curbing the activities of medical quacks, asserts that reputable manufacturing and pharmaceutical chemists would welcome action in this direction.

This is a perfectly true statement. The medical and pharmaceutical professions, as well as the manufacturers, distributors and vendors of medicinal preparations, would support wholeheartedly any move to blot out what is incontestably a very serious evil.

In all States of the Commonwealth quacks and charlatans play upon the credulity of the sick and suffering public. Many impostors without any knowledge of medicines or medical treatment reap rich harvests from the unscrupulous fleecing of their victims.

It is a sad commentary of present-day legislation and legislators that the lives and health of cattle and livestock are more carefully guarded in this respect than those of human beings.

Mr. Creamean's statement referred to claims of the unqualified to cure malignant diseases. Restrictive legislation should go much further and bring within its scope the treatment of all forms of disease.

FEDERAL B.M.A. COUNCIL DISCUSSES P.B.A. AND P.M.S.

A meeting of the Federal Council of the British Medical Association in Australia was held at Melbourne on March 15, 16, 17 and 18, 1954, with Dr. A. J. Collins, the President, in the chair.

The report of this meeting, which appears in "The Medical Journal of Australia" for April 17 refers to a number of matters of direct interest to chemists. They include:

Drugs for Doctor's Bag.

Earlier the Federal Council of the B.M.A. had prepared a list of drugs which it thought desirable should be carried by the doctors and which would be supplied to medical practitioners by pharmaceutical chemists by an arrangement with the Federal Government under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act.

The General Secretary of the B.M.A. reported that he had received from the Minister a revised list of preparations which the Minister thought would be sufficient to meet the needs of the practitioner. With this list was sent a pro forma which the Minister thought the medical practitioner should complete when he made a requisition for the preparations.

After discussing these matters the Federal Council concluded that the list of drugs supplied by the Minister was inadequate and that certain preparations should be added to it. It also expressed disapproval of the use of a pro forma.

It was finally resolved that the Federal Council approved the Minister's suggestion for the provision of drugs for doctors' bags provided the list was amended along certain lines which were set out in detail, and provided the statements regarding stock in hand and references to the time factor were removed from the document.

The list of drugs to be sent to the Minister for approval was drawn up by a sub-committee of the Federal Council consisting of Dr. H. W. Horn, Dr. R. Southby and Dr. A. R. Mallen.

Proposals Submitted by the President of the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies.

At a previous meeting of the B.M.A. Federal Council consideration was given to two recommendations made by Mr. W. R. Cutler the President of the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies of Australia.

One of these proposals was that a committee should be established to deal with accreditation of specific brands of drugs and medicinal preparations recommended by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Committee. The report states that Mr. Cutler had expressed the opinion that the committee should consist of two medical practitioners and two pharmaceutical chemists with a Government nominee as chairman, and that such a committee would act quite independently of the present Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee.

The General Secretary of the B.M.A. reported to the meeting that the matter had been referred to all the State Branches and that all of them had expressed opposition to the suggestion. They saw no necessity for renewal of a list drawn up by the Statutory Pharmaceutical Benefits Committee.

After hearing the report of the General Secretary, the Federal Council resolved that the proposal be not approved.

Pensioner Medical Service.

Further consideration was given to another proposal made to the Federal Council by Mr. Cutler, namely, that consideration be given to the inclusion of the British Pharmaceutical Codex in lieu of the British Pharmacopoeia in the National Health Bill insofar as it related to the Pensioner Medical Service.

The report of the meeting states that the Federal Council, at its previous meeting in October last, did not approve of this proposal. At the same time it approved a further suggestion that all tablets and injections for the Pensioner Medical Service should come under a list, and that no extemporaneous prescribing of these items should be considered.

The General Secretary reported that he had since received a communication from the New South Wales Branch objecting to this resolution. The Branch stated that the decision interfered with the freedom of practitioners to prescribe what they thought was required for the individual patient.

After discussion, the Federal Council determined that further consideration of this matter should be deferred.

TITLE "CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST" DROPPED IN GREAT BRITAIN

In the past two pharmaceutical qualifications have been officially used and recognised in Great Britain, namely, "pharmaceutical chemist" and "chemist and druggist." The right to these qualifications depended upon the examination passed, and in the Pharmaceutical Register two separate and distinct classifications appeared.

Pharmaceutical Chemists Become Fellows.

As from January, 1954, the title "chemist and druggist" is discontinued, and the names in the register of chemists and druggists have been transferred to the register of pharmaceutical chemists.

"The Pharmaceutical Journal" in an explanatory note states that persons previously registered as chemists and druggists are now entitled to use the descriptions "pharmaceutical chemist" and "pharmaceutist" and the abbreviations "Ph.C.," "M.P.S.," etc.

Persons who were registered as pharmaceutical chemists on or before February, 1951, are now designated Fellows of the Pharmaceutical Society, and are entitled to describe themselves as such. The Council has decided that the proper abbreviation for the fellowship is "F.P.S.," an abbreviation which was adopted in Australia by the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria when it established a post-graduate fellowship course a considerable time ago.

SECOND TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP GIVEN BY KODAK (AUSTRALASIA) PTY. LTD.

The Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies of Australia has announced that the Directors of Kodak (Australasia) Pty. Ltd. have offered a second Travelling Scholarship of a value of £1000 to enable the successful applicant to undertake pharmaceutical studies and/or research overseas.

This is the most valuable scholarship available to pharmacy in Australia. The results of such scholar-

ships and the benefits to be derived by the profession as well as by the individuals who are awarded such scholarships are incalculable.

The winner of the first Kodak Travelling Scholarship—Mr. J. G. Manning—is at present overseas carrying out his project which involved investigation into practically every branch of pharmacy over a period of two years.

The sincere thanks of Australian pharmacy are due to Mr. Edgar Rouse, Chairman of Directors of Kodak (Australasia) Pty. Ltd., and his fellow Directors for so generous a gift and the practical interest in the advancement of pharmacy which promoted it.

This Company also shows its great interest in pharmacy by the annual awarding of several twenty-five pounds (£25) prizes to pharmacy students in Australia.

Terms and conditions of the scholarship which will be available in 1955 and particulars regarding procedure for application will be announced by the Federal Council as soon as they have been settled.

COUNTER BUSINESS IS IMPORTANT

We often hear critics within the ranks of pharmacy decry the interest taken by some members in the commercial side of pharmacy.

It is well, therefore, when such matters are discussed, that two very important facts be borne in mind:

1. Close examination will reveal that a high standard of professional services in pharmacy is usually combined with first-class business methods in the most successful pharmacies in this country.

2. That the maintenance of proper standards of pharmaceutical services, as we are at present organised, depends to a considerable extent on the support of counter trade.

It is, therefore, interesting and encouraging to read that no less a person than Mr. T. Heseltine, immediate past President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, in a recent address advocated that more attention should be given to counter business.

When opening the 1953 Chemists' Exhibition, Mr. Heseltine, according to a report published in "The British and Overseas Pharmacist," stated that retail chemists, since the inception of the National Health Service, had given a first-class dispensing service. He expressed the hope that a high standard of service would be the aim of every chemist; but he made the point that the British public expected and were entitled to receive first-class service at the counter. Mr. Heseltine said: "I am convinced that many well-meaning pharmacists for one reason or another are consciously or unconsciously neglecting their counter business, and I am equally convinced that this is not good business, nor is it a good thing for pharmacy generally."

Much food for thought in Australian pharmaceutical circles is to be derived from this very practical suggestion.

DRUG NAMES IN PRESS REPORTS

Pharmaceutical organisations and the Public Relations Secretariat in particular, have expressed very considerable concern on the number of occasions on

which undesirable publication of names of drugs used in suicide and fatal poisonings occur.

They pointed out that co-operation of the press in the withholding of names of poisons has, in the past, led to a diminution in the use of certain poisons. This was particularly noticeable when lysol was in vogue.

More recently, those associated with poisoning statistics are alarmed at the increasing toll of barbiturates and it is regrettable that from time to time newspapers publish prominently the names of these and other poisonous substances.

This month N.S.W. newspapers in featuring a murder case made no attempt to suppress the names of poisons used by the person accused—a medical practitioner who was sentenced to death for the slaying of his child.

Equally reprehensible and more dangerous, is the reference in a N.S.W. daily to the statement by the headmaster of a public school, that he would consider the use of sleep-inducing sedatives for schoolboy rowers "in special circumstances."

The headmaster is alleged to have made this statement when commenting on the possible use by coaches, of phenobarbitone (the drug name being published in this report) as a race eve sedative for Head of the River Eighths.

Mr. Pyke, Melbourne University racing blue, is reported in the same paper as saying "Phenobarb. could be of great assistance to a highly strung schoolboy rower, but I would not allow its use as a general practice."

Such injudicious publicity indicates the need for some restrictive action.

ADVERTISING BY VETERINARY SURGEONS

Over the years there has been a good deal of controversy regarding advertising by pharmaceutical chemists, and although the consensus of opinion now is that advertising of professional services should be severely restricted, thought on the subject is not unanimous. This is due to the fact that pharmacy, as practised in this country, involves entry to a considerable extent into the commercial field of selling of goods as well as services.

The extent to which control of advertising may go is exemplified in a set of Regulations relating to advertising by veterinary surgeons, published in the New South Wales Government Gazette on April 2.

The Regulations stipulate that veterinary surgeons shall not advertise other than in accordance with the Regulations, which consist of three full foolscap pages of the Government Gazette. An example of the thoroughness with which the subject is treated may be gained from the following, which deals with one aspect only:—

"Any notice, sign, plate or plaque exhibited pursuant to this paragraph shall not be illuminated in any manner whatsoever other than by fixed lighting;

(b) not more than one lamp shall be used and shall comply with the following conditions:—

(i) The lamp shall have a fixed light and shall not be of the intermittent type;

(ii) the vertical extremities of the glazed section

shall not be more than two feet apart and the horizontal extremities shall not be more than one foot apart;

- (iii) any lettering shall be confined to the glazed area only and shall be limited to such particulars as may be contained on any notice, sign, plate or plaque pursuant to paragraph (a) hereof;
- (iv) the glazed area of the lamp shall be restricted to one colour for the background and one colour for the lettering and the illumination of the lamp shall be limited to one fixed ordinary light;
- (v) the framework of the lamp shall not move nor be illuminated in any manner whatsoever.

Restrictions are placed also on societies registered under the Co-operation Act, which employ veterinary surgeons.

AN AMERICAN CODE OF ETHICS FOR MANUFACTURERS OF PHARMACEUTICALS

The following is published in "The Pharmaceutical Journal" of January 16, 1954:—

The American Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association have agreed on a code of ethics. Among its clauses it declares members' belief:

"That it is the unquestioned obligation of each and every pharmaceutical manufacturer:

- (a) To manufacture medicinal preparations only under proper conditions and of established value, pure and accurate in composition, and true upon and to their label;
- (b) To label, advertise and merchandise such preparations only in a manner wholly free from misrepresentation of any kind, in complete accord with both the spirit and terms of the applicable laws, and in entire harmony with the highest standard of commercial morality and ethics;
- (c) To refrain from in any way or to any extent infringing upon the equal rights (whether moral or legal) of a competitor and unfairly interfering with his business, as by uttering false or disparaging statements about him or his products or his business, by misappropriating his trade names or formulae or the distinctive form or dress of his products, or by enticing away his employees;
- (d) In short, constantly, earnestly and conscientiously to strive at all times and in all ways to advance the science and to elevate the profession of manufacturing pharmacy to the highest and idealistic plane of public value to the end that it may best and most completely serve the medical profession and the public at large.

A National Pharmaceutical Council has been formed by a number of American pharmaceutical manufacturers with similar aims.

GROUP MEDICAL PRACTICE IN U.K.

An annual sum provisionally fixed at £100,000 is to be set aside for the encouraging of group medical practice in the U.K.

This money is to be made available by way of interest-free loans, and will normally be returnable by

quarterly deductions by payment to medical practitioners.

"The Chemist and Druggist" reports that it is expected in official quarters that premises established for the purpose should be used for at least 21 years. They will be freehold, must be kept in a state of reasonable repair, and must not be sold during the period specified without the Central Health Services Council's consent.

The significant question for pharmacists, says "The Chemist and Druggist," is the probable or possible effect on panel dispensing.

PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS ACT

List No. 8, taking effect as from April 1, and List No. 9, to take effect from May 1, have come to hand.

Copies have been distributed by the Commonwealth Department of Health direct to all approved chemists and doctors.

DRUG TESTING IN NORTHERN IRELAND

A widening of the National Health Service drug testing scheme in Northern Ireland was announced at a meeting of the General Health Services Board in Belfast on January 27, according to a report in "The Chemist and Druggist."

The Secretary, Mr. G. D. Stewart, reported that the Ministry of Health and Local Government had specified that tests be carried out annually, covering not less than 10 per cent. and not more than 20 per cent. of chemists in all areas. That represented a considerable advance on the present scheme whereby only about 50 tests were made in a year. According to official reports, 55 tests were made in the year 1952-53, representing one in every 75,000 prescription forms issued.

REASON AND CONSCIENCE

Man is distinguished from the animal kingdom by his ability to reason. It may be claimed that the reasoning of primitive man encouraged him to walk on two legs instead of four. By standing up straight he could see further in his pursuit of things to eat, and finding something to eat was his main preoccupation.

Reason taught him that it was easier to get something to eat by using a club or a stone instead of his bare hands, or what corresponded to hands in his primitive anatomy. Then came the use of fire for warmth and for cooking his food. And so the process went on, reason prodding him to ever greater achievements.

Today he is learning how to utilise the terrible force which holds the atom together, and which, unleashed, can supply power of formerly undreamt of magnitude.

Perhaps the reason is that reason was not enough. Along with the power to reason, the human brain achieved three other attributes. One was the ability to believe, the second was to have ideals and the third was what we call conscience.

Every one of us, however, can help to make up for the lack by encouraging these in ourselves and others. Perhaps human nature was endowed with frailties to give us an opportunity of doing this. Perhaps it imposed duties on us.

—Issued by Neville Smith on behalf of the Standing Committees in support of the Call to the People of Australia, 162 Exhibition Street, Melbourne, C.I.

SCIENCE SECTION



EDITED BY A. T. S. SISSONS, B.Sc. F.P.S.

ARTICLES

- Some Aspects of the Pharmacology of Medicine.
- Mixtures of Emulsifying Agents—a Practical Approach.
- The Preparation of Dry Extracts of Cascara.
- Vicissitudes of Glycerin.
- General Medical Council.
- New Treatment with Glutamic Acid
- Some Dispensing Problems.
- British Pharmacopoeia, 1953.
- Sugar-Coated Penicillin Tablets Introduced by U.K. Firm.

A.N.Z.A.A.S. Canberra Meeting, 1954

Section O—Pharmaceutical Science—Continued

SOME ASPECTS OF THE PHARMACOLOGY OF ASPIRIN

R. J. Ladd

Acetyl-Salicylic Acid or Aspirin has been used therapeutically for a number of conditions but most notably in rheumatic disorders, fever and certain types of pain. Though it is widely accepted as being effective in these diseases, its mode of action is not known fully in any of them. Most progress has been made in studying its antipyretic action.

It is mainly the analgesic effect of Aspirin that will concern us here and this has seemed the most difficult to study. No satisfactory test has yet been devised for testing the analgesic activity of the antipyretic analgesics. To be satisfactory such tests require to be reasonably sensitive, quantitative and not needing subjective interpretation.

The tests that have been suggested are mainly those used in testing the morphine-like analgesics. Some form of gradable pain is applied such as thermally, chemically, electrically or mechanically induced pain, e.g., local radiant or contact heating, the application of irritant chemicals, faradaic stimulation and the application of pressure respectively. These stimuli may be graded either by altering the times during which they act or changing their intensity.

None of the above methods gave significant results with Aspirin, except perhaps in the hands of the authors who introduced them. This is perhaps not surprising since it was shown as early as in 1937 that Aspirin has no effect on pain or tactile sensations.

One of the most promising methods of the above type seemed to be the stimulation of the tooth pulp of either man or dogs. The results obtained using human beings were always much more satisfactory in consequence of which at least two independent groups investigated the phenomenon statistically and showed that the results obtained with Aspirin were not significantly different from those obtained using placebos; in some cases the effect was less.

Another method suggested in 1952 was the effect of Aspirin on the vibratory threshold, which it was said to raise quite markedly. However, we tried this, too, in Sydney with no success.

Since at various times Aspirin has been shown to have no effect on the thresholds of pain, touch, vibra-

tion, 2-point discrimination, smell or hearing, a number of authors have been led to suggest that it may act by relieving the cause of pain and not by hindering its perception.

Now, the mode of action of Aspirin as an antipyretic is known to be through the central nervous system since it no longer acts if the brain is sectioned behind the midbrain. It is said to lower the threshold of the thermal centre in the hypothalamus.

In normal individuals, heat production and carbon dioxide formation by the body is increased by Aspirin whereas in febrile or convalescent patients, the heat production is unaffected but dissipation of heat is increased.

During fever, blood fluid is low and plasma escapes from the blood vessels. When stimulated by Aspirin the anterior hypothalamus produces water shifts and dilutes the blood by transferring fluid from the tissues to the bloodstream. This apparently increases heat loss from the body surface by radiation and evaporation.

These changes are analogous to those occurring in normal thermoregulation, the response to cold being blood concentration as in fever, and to warmth, blood dilution as in antipyresis.

It has been reported on the Continent that pain, such as is caused by heat stimulation of a finger tip, causes a decrease in the refractive index of the blood. This is presumably by increasing the proportion of water in the blood. If this is a protective mechanism of the body against pain, aspirin will probably assist it.

The types of pain in which Aspirin has shown itself effective are mainly, if not entirely, those associated with inflammation or other causes of increased fluid in the interstitial spaces. Headache is a special case but here, too, changes in interstitial fluid are to be expected, at least in the types whose causation is understood.

The usual mechanism of pain production in these cases is, first, tissue damage from some cause which need not concern us, then, an increase in blood supply which supplies the heat and redness associated with inflammation. Next, because of greater intravascular pressure or perhaps even damaged blood vessel walls (direct or toxic), there is extravasation of fluid which supplies the swelling seen in most inflammations and then, the increased pressure in the tissues brought

about by inflammatory exudate (or non-inflammatory in some cases) causes compression of the nerve endings in the vicinity, and, consequently, pain, the fourth symptom of inflammation. Toothache is a special case showing the above particularly well because it is caused by an area of inflammation confined almost completely by rigid walls. The pressure obtaining is thus not alleviated by any elasticity around the edges of the region, therefore the pressure on the nerve endings is increased by the pulse waves in the artery of the tooth and the pain takes on a pulsating character.

We may therefore frame the hypothesis that Aspirin acts as an analgesic by reducing the pressure on nerve endings as a result of removal of fluid from the painful region.

In support of this we may quote some fairly old work (1926) from Japan where it was shown that salicylates reduced the area of inflammation caused by dropping Mustard oil on the skin.

More recent work (1951-52) in America involves the reduction of swelling as measured volumetrically after the injection of an irritant chemical into the hindlimbs of rats. This method seems an effective means of testing Aspirin and drugs of similar action and using a slightly modified method we have been able to produce a good dose-response curve between 0.1 and 1 gm. of Aspirin per kilogram of rat. The toxic dose is more than twice the highest dose used so that the range is within normal therapeutic levels if rheumatic diseases are also considered.

Workers on rheumatic disorders have suggested that the mode of action of Aspirin may be by the inhibition of hyaluronidase, "the spreading factor." This phenomenon is fairly widely accepted as occurring *in vivo* but *in vitro* tests have shown absolutely no anti-hyaluronidase effects in salicylates. It would therefore appear that some mediation is required. The possibility that the Aspirin only acted after the body had altered it chemically was fairly well eliminated early by testing all the known breakdown and conjugation products against hyaluronidase.

There are several factors which suggest that the mediation of Aspirin's effect is via the pituitary-adrenal cortex system. Of these, the known fact of its acting on the hypothalamus, a link in the neuro-hypophyseal chain, is indicative, though not in itself conclusive. Rather more important is its ACTH-like effects on the biochemistry, haematology and histology of the body. Aspirin in fact can stimulate the anterior pituitary to release ACTH. Some of Aspirin's effects can be prevented if adrenalectomy has been performed. The ACTH-like effects of Aspirin may be stopped completely by the removal of the pituitary gland, the Aspirin having no direct effect on the adrenals. Also, if barbiturates which have a special effect on the hypothalamus are given, the result is the same as hypophysectomy.

Despite the above, Aspirin does not act by causing the release of corticosteroids; it does, in fact, antagonise the corticosteroids.

It may now be suggested that Aspirin acts via the release of ACTH which in turn acts on some tissue (apart from the adrenal cortex) to give the desired effect. Such a tissue may produce a secretion or be the painful region involved.

This does not seem to be the case, however, as the anti-inflammatory action of Aspirin is not altered either by adrenalectomy or by hypophysectomy. The effect on inflammatory oedema in rat limbs is not decreased but increased in adrenalectomised rats. This lends support to the theory of the release of ACTH and antagonism of the corticosteroids. No conclusive results have yet been obtained on hypophysectomised rats, but the indication is that the effect of Aspirin is virtually unchanged.

Another group of workers have suggested that inflammatory oedema in such cases may be reduced by the inhibition of fibrinolysin and have shown this to

be the case *in vitro*. We have not yet investigated this possibility.

Summary.

In summary, we have seen that Aspirin probably acts by removing fluid from areas in which it has accumulated through pathological causes, thereby removing the pressure from nerve endings and relieving the pain. The mechanism for this enforced water transport still remains to be elucidated.

Nicholas Research Fellow,

Dept. of Pharmacology, University of Sydney.

MIXTURES OF EMULSIFYING AGENTS—A PRACTICAL APPROACH

G. Eckert and C. J. Griffiths.

An inspection of the emulsion bases included in various formulae shows that preparations which include mixtures of emulsifying agents are common. In certain cases, such as mixtures of Sodium Lauryl Sulphate and Cetyl Alcohol (although these substances are apparently antagonistic) the increased stability of the product has been established in practice and explained theoretically in terms of a complex molecular film. In other cases complete information is not available and a few scattered examples serve as the only guide. One such example is to be found in wool alcohols—emulsifying wax mixtures, in which the type (oil-in-water or water-in-oil) and stability of the final emulsion depends on the percentages of water and of each emulsifying agent.

As these mixtures are of relatively frequent occurrence and both agents are firmly established official substances it was decided to carry out an investigation with the object of obtaining as much information as possible on this subject.

Experimental.

A large number of emulsions of the type

Wool Alcohols	} varying proportions
Emulsifying Wax	
Water	
White Soft Paraffin sufficient to produce 100%	

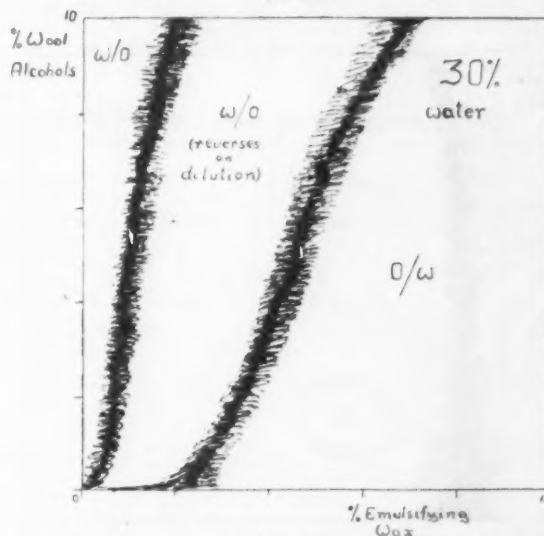


Fig. 1.

In addition to the regions of oil-in-water and water-in-oil emulsions (characteristic of the other percentages of water) an area was observed in which the emulsions appeared to be of the oil miscible type but on dilution with water were seen to reverse.

were made using the same samples of emulsifying agents, obtained from a reliable source throughout. Care was taken at all times to prevent the temperature rising above 65°C. The emulsion type was tested by dilution and electroconductivity.

Results.

The results obtained are set out in the form of diagrams (Figs. I-IV) representing varying proportions of emulsifying agents in the presence of 30%, 50%, 60% and 70% of water. The shaded areas represent the amounts of emulsifying agent where the product is either unstable or variable in emulsion type. It was found that in the case of oil-in-water emulsions, the product became more stable when the amount of emulsifying wax was increased in the presence of a constant

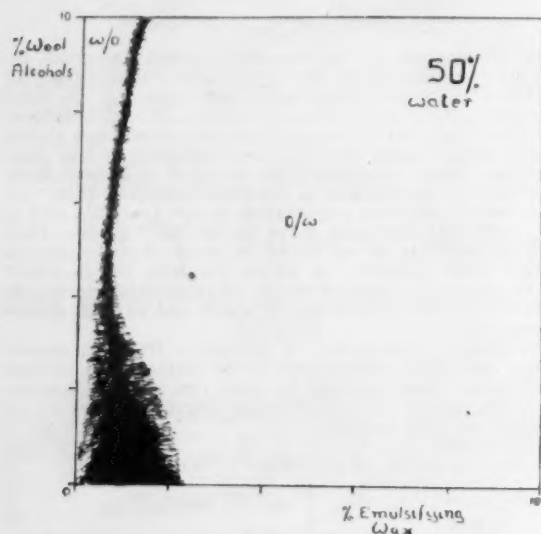


Fig. II.

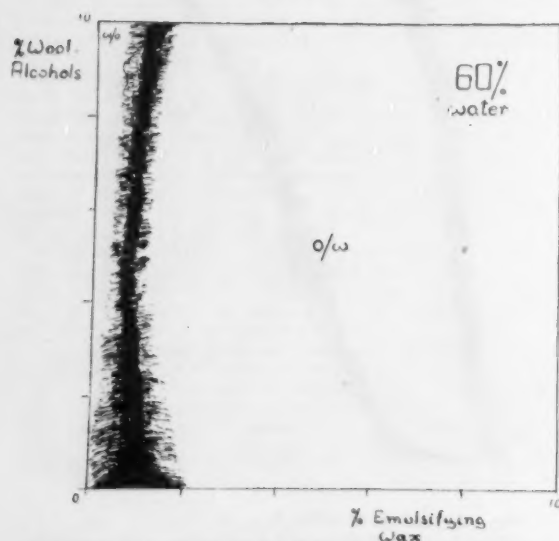


Fig. III.

These diagrams show the typical oil-in-water and water-in-oil regions with the changes in stability as described above.

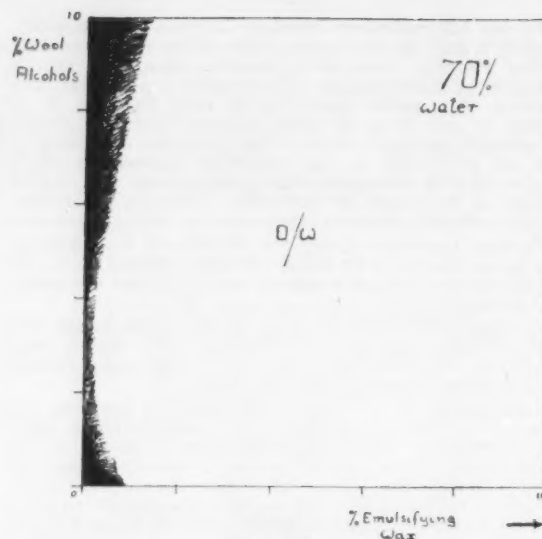


Fig. IV.

In this case there is the normal region of oil-in-water emulsion (the boundaries of which could have been calculated from the boundary values for 60%) but there is no region of stable water-in-oil emulsions.

amount of wool alcohols. However, in some cases a stable oil-in-water emulsion could not be obtained with emulsifying wax alone but the addition of wool alcohols in the correct proportion produced a permanent emulsion.

The stability of water-in-oil emulsions prepared with wool alcohols did not appear to be increased by the addition of emulsifying wax. The remaining cases (emulsions containing more than 70% water) could be estimated by calculation from the 70% water examples.

Summary.

(1) A number of cream bases prepared with varying amounts of water, emulsifying wax and wool alcohols, have been prepared and examined for their stability.

(2) The results obtained indicate that it is possible to predict, within limits, the behaviour of emulsions prepared using this system, and to adjust formulae to give greater stability.

Acknowledgment.

The authors wish to thank Mr. S. E. Wright for suggesting this work and for helpful criticism. Department of Pharmacy, Sydney University.

* * *

THE PREPARATION OF DRY EXTRACTS OF CASCARA

By W. H. Bruce and T. D. Whittet.

From the Pharmaceutical Department, University College Hospital, London.

(A paper read at the British Pharmaceutical Conference, London, 1953.)

A dry extract of cascara sagrada has been official in the British Pharmacopoeia since 1885. The first method of extraction was to macerate the bark in No. 40 powder for 48 hours with proof spirit (57 per cent. w/v of ethanol) and then to pack the moist powder into a percolator and percolate with water to a stated volume. The resulting percolate was

evaporated on a water bath until a suitable consistency was obtained.

In 1898 the directions were altered to percolation to exhaustion with distilled water and evaporating to dryness on a water bath. This method was retained virtually unchanged in the 1914 Pharmacopoeia. The 1932 B.P. directed that the liquid obtained by percolating the bark to exhaustion must be evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure.

In 1948 the official directions were amended to allow the percolate to be evaporated to a viscous liquid at atmospheric pressure before completing the evaporation to dryness under reduced pressure at a temperature not exceeding 100°C. The same method is included in the 1953 Pharmacopoeia.

It is generally considered that the reason for the use of reduced pressure in the preparation of this extract is to render the final product in a suitable form for the preparation of granules and not for reasons of conserving activity—hence the alteration of the method of preparation in 1948.

The method official in the United States Pharmacopoeia XIV is to macerate cascara in coarse powder with boiling water for three hours, followed by percolation to dryness with boiling water. The resulting percolate is evaporated to dryness, reduced to a fine powder, and is mixed with sufficient starch to give a specified weight. This method was allowed as an alternative to the official 1932 B.P. method by the Sixth Addendum (1943) to permit the use of extracts obtained from America during the war.

Greco and Dumez have published a modification of this method, using a pressure cooker for the preparation of liquid extract of cascara, and we have investigated their method and some modifications of it for both dry and liquid extract of cascara.

Until 1948 the only criteria for the quality of cascara extracts were their physical properties, such as colour, taste and smell. The Pharmacopoeia of that year introduced a minimum requirement of 80 per cent. of water-soluble extractive matter, and this test is retained in the 1953 edition.

Fairbairn *et al.* have now devised chemical and biological assays for several of the anthraquinone drugs, and these have now been applied to cascara and its extracts.

As a result of assays of senna extracts, Fairbairn and Michaels found that the glycosides of senna are

damaged by prolonged heat, and Fairbairn suggests that the same may be true of cascara.

We therefore decided to compare the activity of extracts prepared by the methods of the 1932 B.P., the 1953 B.P., Greco and Dumez's modification of the U.S.P. XIV method, and a simplification of this method devised by one of us (W. B.).

Experimental.

Four extracts were prepared from the same batch of bark:—

A. By the 1932 B.P. method.

Percolation to exhaustion with distilled water and evaporation to dryness under reduced pressure. Sample A.

B. By the 1953 B.P. method.

Percolation to exhaustion with distilled water, evaporation to a syrupy extract at atmospheric pressure, followed by final evaporation to dryness under reduced pressure. Sample B.

C. The method of Greco and Dumez.

The drug in very coarse powder is placed in a suitable vessel in an autoclave, and four times its weight of boiling water is poured over it. The mixture is allowed to macerate for 15 minutes, and is then heated for 10 minutes at 15 lb. pressure. The material is then packed into a percolator, and boiling water is passed through it until it is exhausted. The percolate is evaporated to dryness at atmospheric pressure. Sample C.

D. Bruce's modification of the method of Greco and Dumez.

The drug in very coarse powder is placed in a suitable vessel in an autoclave, and four times its weight of boiling water is poured over it. It is then immediately heated for 10 minutes at 15 lb. pressure. The material is drained and transferred to a tincture press, and the marc is pressed as strongly as possible. The expressed liquid is added to that previously drained from the drug, and the mixed liquids are evaporated to dryness under atmospheric pressure. Sample D.

These extracts and the bark from which they were made were assayed chemically, and in some instances biologically, and the results are shown in Table I.

Each extract was prepared from 500 g. of bark, and the yield of extracts are recorded in Table I; it is thus possible to calculate the amount of glycosides originally in the bark which has been retained in the final

Table I.
Chemical and Biological Assays of Dry Cascara Extracts, Each Prepared from 500 g. of Cascara Bark.

Sample.	Yield of Extract.	Chemical Assay mg. of glycoside (as aloe emodin) per g.	Biological Assay mg. per g. as sennosides A and B.	B/C Ratio.	Amounts of Glycosides Present in Extracts.	Percentage of Glycosides Extracted.
Cascara bark	—	7.30 } 7.42 } 7.36	—	—	3.68 g.	—
A B.P. 1932 method. 10 l. of percolate.	100 g.	7.37	4.86	0.65	0.74 g.	20.04
B B.P. 1948 and 1953 method.	122 g.	10.8 } 10.8 } 10.8 } 10.8 } 10.8	6.60	0.611	1.32 g.	35.82
C Method of Greco and Dumez. 9 l. of percolate.	143 g.	18.4 } 19.0 } 18.7	9.96	0.53	2.67 g.	72.69
D Bruce's method.	107 g.	10.8 } 10.8 } 10.8	—	—	1.15 g.	31.40

extracts. These proportions are given in the last column of the table.

Discussion.

From the results it appears that percolation with boiling water is a more efficient method of extracting cascara than with cold water. The use of autoclaving as suggested by Greco and Dumez also appears to increase efficiency in extraction.

The method of Greco and Dumez extracted 72.69 per cent. of the glycosides present in the bark compared with 20.04 per cent. by the 1932 B.P. method and 35.82 per cent. by the present official method. Bruce's method extracted 31.4 per cent., and is therefore more efficient than the 1932 B.P. method. The Greco and Dumez method shows some saving of time compared with the official method. Bruce's method is very convenient, and results in a very great saving of time compared with the other methods, and our results show that it gives as good an extract as the official method. This extract was only assayed chemically, and gave the same value as the official method with a slightly smaller yield.

The use of reduced pressure in evaporating the extracts to dryness does not result in a more potent product, and in fact an extract prepared by evaporation entirely under reduced pressure was slightly less potent than one where reduced pressure was only used in the final stages. This may be due to the greater time necessary to remove all the water when using reduced pressure.

Another possible reason for the greater potency of extracts prepared by the autoclaving method may be that this treatment inactivates enzymes which may cause decomposition of the glycosides. This may also be the reason for the lower potency of extracts prepared by evaporating the percolate entirely under reduced pressure. The lower temperature might conserve the activity of such enzymes. This explanation would not, however, account for the greater yield of the autoclaving method.

Summary.

1. The efficiency of four methods of preparing dry extract of cascara is compared.
2. The use of boiling water and autoclaving gives more efficient extraction than cold water.
3. The use of reduced pressure for evaporating the percolate does not give an extract with increased potency, and may cause reduction in potency.
4. A method using autoclaving followed by pressing of the marc is as efficient as the official method, and results in a great saving of time.

VICISSITUDES OF GLYCERIN

An Editorial Note, *The Pharmaceutical Journal*,
July 18, 1953.

Glycerin is not one of those commodities that dominate world trade or disturb international relations like sulphur or petroleum, but in pharmacy it has often been crucially important. The soap-boilers have not, since the war, had any difficulty in disposing of their by-product; in fact, in 1950 demand was at a very high level, and in August of that year its price of £165/6/- a ton was the highest that had ever been reached in Britain, out-topping the previous peak price of £140 per ton in 1920. In 1950 there was a shortage, and if supplies had not been forthcoming from India and the Far East glycerin would have been very scarce indeed. From 1950 to 1952, as the chairman at the annual meeting of Unilever pointed out, world glycerin production (excluding Russia) had fallen by some 20,000 tons, which did not lead to any shortage because demand had fallen somewhat, although he did not omit to say, "there is little margin of safety." Various methods

have been proposed for the commercial production of glycerin, but the major source today is still the soap-kettle, the synthetic product being only 10 per cent. of world production. As synthetic detergents replace some of the soap used in Europe and North America, demand for oils and fats for soap-making will decrease, and consequently the amount of by-product glycerin. A greater demand for soap from other countries of the world will correct this, but if the increased demand becomes too great a strain will be put on the supply of the requisite oils and fats. When new soap export markets have been found to replace those of Europe and North America, what will be the outlets for any increased supplies of glycerin?

No pharmacist needs to be reminded that it was SCHEELE the apothecary who discovered (1779) "the sweet in fatty oils," and described his method of preparation in 1783, but it was CHEVREUIL, in 1811, who named the product "glycerol," and obtained a patent in 1823 for the production of fatty acids and recovery of glycerol. In fact, until the beginning of the 20th century the largest percentage of glycerin was produced in the manufacture of stearin candles, which, because of electric lighting, are now obsolescent, being used only, as every householder is aware, when there is a power cut, or when a shilling cannot be found for the slot meter. Rennie, in his "Supplement to the Pharmacopoeias" in 1833, under "Glycerine," describes it simply as "the sweet principle of oils." It was given a place in the B.P. 1864, and in the B.P. 1867, when glycerine of carbolic acid, of gallic acid, tannic acid, starch and of borax made their appearance. In view of the introduction officially in 1867 of these solutions in glycerine, it is difficult to understand why the S.O.E.D. gives the date 1879 as the introduction into English of the word "glycerine," meaning "any preparation consisting of a specified substance dissolved or suspended in glycerine." By 1885 two more had been added—glycerinum plumbi subacetatis and glycerinum tragacanthae, and glycerin, besides being an ingredient in liniment of potassium iodide with soap, was also used in nine other official preparations.

Towards the turn of the century, in the B.P. 1898, there were nine official glycerina; and elsewhere glycerin was used pharmaceutically as a menstruum, medicinally in a number of conditions where it is not now expected to have any therapeutic action, while as an ingredient in toilet preparations it used to keep good company with orange-flowers, roses, honey, and cooling cucumber. Restriction of supplies during the Great War probably caused many pharmacists to rack their brains to find a substitute, but during World War II the shortage did not seem to be felt so acutely. Other things had taken its place. Glycerin is still with us officially, in the B.P. 1953 are three glycerins and glycerin suppositories, but cosmetic formulation has undergone a radical change and glycerin is not considered to be the indispensable humectant that it formerly was. Even if its pharmaceutical uses seem to be declining its industrial uses may still take all that the soap-boilers and petroleum-crackers can produce.

GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL

Approved Names

Approved Names are devised or selected by the British Pharmacopoeia Commission, and the intention is that if any of the drugs to which these Approved Names are applied should eventually be described in the British Pharmacopoeia the Approved Name should be its official title. *The issue of an Approved Name does not imply that the substance will necessarily be included in the British Pharmacopoeia or that the Commission is prepared to recommend the use of the substance in medicine.*

In some instances, the names, other than the chemical names, appearing in the second column are applied to preparations of the substance.

The following list gives the Approved Names issued during the period January to July, 1953.

Approved Name	Other Names
Benethamine Penicillin	N-Benzyl-2-phenylethylamine salt of benzylpenicillin
Bismuth Glycolylarsanilate	Bismuthyl N-glycolylarsanilate Milibis
Bromazine	2-(4-Bromodiphenylmethoxy)-ethyl dimethylamine Ambodryl
Carbimazole	2-Carbethoxythio-1-methylimidazole Neo-Mercazole
Cetomacrogol 1000	Polyethylene glycol 1000 monocetyl ether
Cetrimonium Chloride	Hexadecyltrimethylammonium chloride
Chlorpromazine	3-Chloro-10-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)phenothiazine Largactil is the hydrochloride
Dextromethorphan	(+)-3-Methoxy-N-methylmorphinan
Dextrorphan	(+)-3-Hydroxy-N-methylmorphinan
Dihydrallazine	1:4-Dihydrazinophthalazine Nepresol
Dimenhydrinate	8-Chlorotheophylline salt of (2-diphenylmethoxyethyl)-dimethylamine Dramamine
Hexachlorophane	Di-(3:5:6-trichloro-2-hydroxyphenyl)methane Hexachlorophene
Hyaluronidase	Enzymes which depolymerise hyaluronic acid
Hydrocortisone	17-Hydroxycorticosterone Hydrocortone
Insulin Zinc Suspension (Amorphous)	Insulin Lente
Insulin Zinc Suspension (Crystalline)	Insulin Semilente
Iodothiouracil	Insulin Ultralente 4-Hydroxy-5-iodo-2-mercaptopyrimidine Itrumil is the sodium derivative
Iopanoic Acid	2-(3-Amino-2:4:6-tri-iodobenzyl)butanoic acid Telepaque
Iproniazid	N-isoNicotinoyl-N'-isopropylhydrazine
Isophane Insulin	NPH Insulin
Levomethorphan	(-)-3-Methoxy-N-methylmorphinan
Levorphan	(-)-3-Hydroxy-N-methylmorphinan Dromoran is the tartrate
Macrogol 4000	Polyethylene glycol 4000
Macrogol 400	Polyethylene glycol 400
Methoxamine	β -Hydroxy-2:5-dimethoxy- α -methylphenethylamine Vasylax is the hydrochloride
Methylpentynol	3-Methylpent-1-yn-3-ol Oblivon; Somnesin
Neomycin	An antibiotic produced by a strain of <i>Streptomyces fradiae</i>
Nitrofurazone	5-Nitrofur-2-aldehyde semicarbazone Furacin
Noradrenaline	(-)-2-Amino-1-(3:4-dihydroxyphenyl)ethanol (-)-Noradrenaline Levophed

Approved Name	Other Names
Oxytetracycline	An antibiotic produced by <i>Streptomyces rimosus</i> Terramycin
Pentaerythritol Tetranitrate	2:2-Bishydroxymethyl-1:3-propanediol tetranitrate Pentaerythrityl Tetranitrate (-)-1-m-Hydroxyphenyl-2-methylaminoethanol
Phenylephrine	Neophryn is the hydrochloride; Neosynephrine is the hydrochloride
Phenylindanedione	2-Phenylindane-1:3-dione Dindevan
Pholcodine	2'-Morpholinoethyl ether of morphine
Primidone	5-Ethylhexahydro-5-phenylpyrimidine-4:6-dione Mysoline
Procainamide	4-Amino-N-(2-diethylaminoethyl)Benzamide
Procyclidine	1-cycloHexyl-1-phenyl-3-pyrrolidinopropan-1-ol Kemadrin is the hydrochloride
Propantheline Bromide	2'-Diisopropylaminoethyl xanthen-9-carboxylate methobromide Pro-Banthine Bromide
Racemethorphan	(\pm)-3-Methoxy-N-methylmorphinan
Racemorphan	(\pm)-3-Hydroxy-N-methylmorphinan
Salicylamide	o-Hydroxybenzamide
Sodium Antimonylgluconate	Sodium salt of a trivalent antimony derivative of gluconic acid Triostam
Stibamine Glucoside	N-Glucosyl derivative of sodium p-aminophenylstibonate
Sulphasomidine	6-p-Aminobenzenesulphonamido-2:4-dimethylpyrimidine Sulfisomidine Elkosin
Thurfyl Nicotinate	Tetrahydrofurfuryl nicotinate Trafuril
Amendments	
Sodium Stibogluconate	Sodium salt of a quinquevalent antimony derivative of gluconic acid Pentostam
Ethyl Methimazolate	This Approved Name is now replaced by Carbimazole (see above)
Supplementary List, February, 1954.	
Aminopterin Sodium	Sodium 4-aminopteroylglutamate
Bacitracin	An antibiotic produced by a strain of <i>Bacillus subtilis</i>
Benzathine Penicillin	NN'-dibenzylethylenediamine dibenzylpenicillin Dibencil; Neolin; Penidural; Permapen
Benzethonium Chloride	Benzyl dimethyl-p-(1:1:3:3-tetramethylbutyl) phenoxylethoxyethylammonium chloride Phemeride; Phemerol Chloride
Dehydrocholic Acid	3:7:12-Trioxocholanic acid Decholin; Dehydrocholin
Dichloroxylenol	2:4-Dichloro-3:5-xyleneol
Dihydrotachysterol	A.T. 10
Dyflon	Diisopropyl fluorophosphonate DFP

Approved Name	Other Names
Erythromycin	An antibiotic produced by a strain of <i>Streptomyces erythreus</i> Erythrocin; Ilotycin
Fumagillin	An antibiotic produced by certain strains of <i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i>
Nicotinyl Alcohol	3-Pyridylmethanol
Pentolinium Tartrate	Ronicol is the tartrate Pentamethylene-1:5-bis-(1-methylpyrrolidinium tartrate) Ansolsen
Primaquine	8-(4-Amino-1-methylbutylamino)-6-methoxy-quinoline
Reserpine	An alkaloid obtained from <i>Rauwolfia serpentina</i> Benth. Serpasil
Sodium Acetizoate	Sodium 3-acetamido-2:4:6-triiodobenzoate Diagnol
Tetracycline	4-Dimethylamino-1:4:4a:5:5a:6:11:12a-octahydro-3:6:10:12:12a-pentahydroxy-6-methyl-1:11-dioxonaphthacene-2-carboxamide Achromycin
Tretamine	2:4:6-Tri(ethyleneimino)-s-triazine Triethanmelamine; Triethylene Melamine; TEM

NEW TREATMENT WITH GLUTAMIC ACID

By H. S. Grainger, Ph.C.

Glutamic acid, $\text{COOH} \cdot \text{CH}_2 \cdot \text{CH}_2 \cdot \text{CH} \cdot \text{NH}_2 \cdot \text{COOH}$, has long been known as an essential amino acid and is the only one which is oxidised by brain tissue. It is deaminated to α -ketoglutaric acid which is then metabolised with other carbohydrate products in the Krebs cycle. Glutamic acid thus forms an important link between a metabolism of proteins and carbohydrates. According to Weil-Malherbe the principal function of glutamic acid is the removal of intracellular ammonia during the process of deamination, transamination and amidation. J. M. Walshe at University College Hospital, London, has tried the effect of glutamic acid in the treatment of patients in hepatic coma, on the supposition that ammonia is an important toxic agent in this condition. The sodium salt was given by intravenous infusion. 20 gm. of glutamic acid was converted to the sodium salt in 80 ml. water and diluted with 500 ml. of 5 per cent. glucose solution. This was administered over three to four hours. A warning is given about the possibility of oedema from sodium retention if larger amounts are given. The drug may be administered by mouth as 0.5 gm. tablets. One of the five patients treated failed to respond and this is attributed to the fact that the patient was simultaneously treated with an ammonia yielding ion exchange resin. The authors show that in patients with cirrhosis the administration of ammonia may produce symptoms simulating hepatic coma. Priest *et al.* and Chatfield and Tetlow have confirmed the clinical results described by Walshe. At the present time numerous other workers are trying this treatment on their patients.—*The Export Review*.

SOME DISPENSING PROBLEMS

By C. H. Price, Ph.C., A.R.I.C., M.S.A.Chem.I.

Although it may be imagined that every conceivable combination of chemicals and galenicals had already been prescribed, new concoctions make their appearance.

Such a one is:—

R/
Iodi gr. x
Pot Iodid gr. xv
Aquae 3i
Paraff. Liq. 5i fs
Fiat lin sec art.
Sig P.A.A. mnque.

The iodine and potassium iodide will dissolve in the water to yield a solution of potassium triiodide, but the problem is then to get the aqueous solution and the liquid paraffin to mix. Several ways are possible, depending upon whether a water in oil emulsion or oil in water emulsion is aimed at.

The addition of a couple of drachms of soft soap produces the latter type, although half a drachm of lanette wax makes a better product. For the former, half a drachm of wool alcohol yields a product which tends to separate a granular precipitate. Half a drachm of beeswax produces a liniment which is stable.

The simplest way of handling the compounding is to place the liquid paraffin with the emulgent in a wide-mouthed bottle and warm in a water bath. The iodine and potassium iodide are dissolved in the water and then added to the warmed paraffin mixture, and the bottle shaken until cold.

Another prescription which has given trouble is:—

R/
Ephedrine Hydrochlor 0.15%
Mentholis gr. i
Normal saline ad 3ii
Fiat nebula.

Menthol is present in excess of its solubility, and the excess requires filtering out. Simple filtration, however, is usually not sufficient, and it is better to shake with a few grains of talc or kiesel guhr, allow to stand for some time, and then filter. It might be argued that a prescribed drug ought not to be filtered out; a crystal of menthol deposited in the nose would, however, nullify that argument!

The calculation is a bit troublesome, since it calls for 1.3 grains (approx.) of Ephedrine Hyd; it seems much simpler to weigh 1½ grains and make it up to 1100 mins, which gives a 0.15% solution.

A third prescription which was presented recently is:—

R/
Ac Acetylsal gr. v
Mist Mag Hydrox 3i
Tinct Card Co. m x
Inf Quassia Recens ad 3fs
Mitte 3viii

On rubbing the aspirin and magnesia magna together effervescence occurs, due presumably to the presence of traces of carbonate. Suspension is not necessary unless the Mist Mag Hydrox is of poor quality, when the addition of 10 grains of P. Trag. Co. per fluid ounce of mixture improves the appearance.

A prescription which is almost a chestnut is:—

R/
Bismuth. Subnit
Quinin Sulph ana gr. 1½
Fiat pil. mitte tales xxlv

So much has been written on the compounding of pills containing Quinine that it was resolved to make them up several ways to see if they could be compounded by the standard method. The addition of potassium acid tartrate to "reduce the bulk" resulted in a pill weighing almost 5½ grains. The standard method:—

R/
Bismuth Subnit gr. 36
Quinine Sulph gr. 36
Acacia gr. 18 (= 25%)
Glucose Liq qs
Water 2 drops

made a small hard pill of 4½ grains which, left exposed to the air, did not soften and lose shape, but hardened

rather. Tested in a flask with cold water, the pill disintegrated within five minutes.

This so-called "standard method" is to incorporate approximately 25% of gum acacia in a pill, to mass with liquid glucose, and add one or two drops of water. The mass should be rather soft, soft enough to cut into pills on the pill machine. They harden rapidly, since the gum absorbs the water to make a "gel." If the mass is at all sticky, it can be rolled by dusting the machine rather more liberally than usual with starch. This helps give the pill a white coating, and if the mass is sticky enough to collect a fair amount of starch, it gives the pill a pseudo pearl coating.

My own experience is that many of the so-called incompatibilities existing between acacia and common medicaments may be ignored as far as pill making is concerned. Unfortunately, many practising chemists, students and teachers choose to follow methods reproduced from outdated and obsolete textbooks.

A recent dispensing examination gave the following lotion to compound:—

R/
Paraff Molle 3 ii
Calamin
Zinc Oxid ana 3 i
Liq Calcis ad 3 iv
Fiat lot sec art.

"Secundem artem" consists of placing the sifted powders in a bottle which is stood in a water bath or oven to heat. Meanwhile the soft paraffin is melted and the liquor calcis warmed. The hot paraffin is added to the powders and shaken. The lime water is added little by little with shaking. In this case the finely divided powders act as an emulsifying agent.

To my mind, however, the product is vastly improved by the addition of two drachms of emulsifying wax B.P.

The same examination paper gave:—

R/
Ol Morrhuæ 3 i
Syr Ferri Iodid 3 vi
Spts Chloroform 3 i
Liq Calcis ad 3 vi

It was expected that candidates would dispense the cod liver oil and the syrup of ferrous iodide in separate mixtures, presumably on account of the oxidase enzyme in the acacia. This conceivably oxidises the iodide with the ultimate liberation of free iodine. Six bottles were made up, three with acacia showing no oxidase enzyme; the other three were made up using acacia which gave a positive reaction to the benzidine test for oxidase enzyme. The cod liver oil was emulsified on the 4:2:1 principle and the other ingredients added "sec art." After standing a week, none of the emulsions had broken, and the addition of carbon tetrachloride to the bottles revealed no trace of free iodine. On standing for a further two weeks no colour still developed in the carbon tetrachloride layer.

Another concoction emanating from a skin specialist is:—

R/
Ichthyol 3 i
Liq Calcis 3 iv
Adeps Lanae 3 v
Paraff Molle 3 v
Ung Zinci 3 ii fs

The chief difficulty with ichthyol is to prevent the finished product from being either "streaky" or containing specks. In this case the wool fat, paraff molle and zinc ointment were warmed together and triturated with the ichthyol in a warm (not hot) mortar, and the lime water added with trituration. The product was very satisfactory.

Still another combination with ichthyol is:—

R/
Sulph Praecip 3 ii
Bals Peru 3 ii
Ichthamol 3 i
Adeps Benz ad 3 ii

Compounded with benzoinated lard the product would not rub in, but rolled up into small pieces about which the patient complained. A better product was produced by mixing the Peru Balsam with a drachm of castor oil and levigating the powders with a little liquid paraffin and making up to the prescribed amount with soft paraffin—the prescriber's permission having previously been obtained.

A combination which crops up now and then is:—

R/
Chloral Hydrate 3 i fs
Sod. Phenobarb gr. viii
Syrup 3 ii
Tr. Aurant 3 i
Aq. Cinnamon ad 3 iv

Sodium phenobarbitone is, of course, alkaline, and hydrolyses the chloral hydrate, producing chloroform; at the same time a precipitate of phenobarbitone forms. The only solution is to seek permission to send the barbiturate as a half grain tablet.

The following lotion presents some difficulty:—

R/
Ichthamol 2 %
Bals Peru 3 %
Lotio Calamin ad 3 iv

Balsam Peru in this combination produces a speckly lotion; the usual dodge of adding castor oil cannot be followed, as it is quite impossible to emulsify a lotion with acacia. A satisfactory method is to mix the Balsam with about half an ounce of Tincture of Quillaia and add it to the lotion.

The prescription was written in the time of the old Calamine Lotion, but the modern formula with bentonite did not make it possible to deviate from the above procedure. A couple of different methods of compounding were tried. First the powders were triturated with the Balsam and then with the glycerine being finally diluted. In the second the Balsam was triturated with a magna of bentonite. In both cases the product did not compare with that made with tincture of Quillaia.

Trouble sometimes comes from unsuspected sources:—

R/
Bismuth Salicyl 3 ii
Sod. Bicarb 3 iv
Tinct. Bellad 3 ii
Tinct Chlorof. Co. min C
Aq Cinnam ad 3 iv

Dispensed in a screw-capped bottle, the bottle burst—fortunately before the customer got it! Bismuth salicylate slowly liberates acid, and the simplest method of dealing with the trouble is to triturate the powders in a mortar with warm water to get the effervescence over. A similar preparation is:—

R/
Chloretone v
Tr Bellad m vii
Mist Magn Hydrox ad 3 fs

Chloretone is insoluble in this dilution, but further gives trouble in that it slowly hydrolyses to give free acid; the suspension of magnesium hydroxide is quite likely to contain carbonate due to absorption of CO₂, and the mixture may burst the bottle. It would seem the best way out is to ask the prescriber's consent to send 5-gr. chloretone capsules.

BRITISH PHARMACOPOEIA, 1953

APPLIED PHARMACOLOGY.

By Professor A. D. Macdonald, M.A., M.Sc., M.D.

Reprinted from *The Pharmaceutical Journal*,
January 2, 1954.

One of my activities, as a pharmacologist, has been to assist that much-criticised body, the Nomenclature Committee, in cases where there was some doubt about a *prima facie* case for an Approved Name. In the course of such work I received and digested substantial

piles of literature, presumably supplied by manufacturers, and, of course, I consulted my clinical colleagues and pharmaceutical friends. While realising the value of the early award of an Approved Name in the hope that we might avoid a repetition of such muddles as Atebrin-mepacrine and Pentothal-thiopentone, I felt that the award should be conditional on the new compound really having made some definite advance. The fact that a drug has, say, detergent or hypnotic properties does not, I think, constitute a right to an Approved Name. Rather, is it more reliable or less toxic than the available drugs? Has it a more convenient duration of action? Is it more stable, less painful on injection? I remember Professor Marshall, of Johns Hopkins University, presiding over an N.R.C. Antimalarials Committee during the war, being very blunt with a distinguished organic chemist: "We are not really interested, Sir," he said, "that your new compound has certain antimalarial properties. Is it better than Atebrin?" Atebrin was at that time, of course, the standard synthetic alternative to quinine.

Approved Names.

We all tend to criticise Approved Names, myself with the rest. I dislike, for example, Insulin Zinc Suspension—especially as a name for more than one preparation and which requires such qualifications as "amorphous" or "crystalline"; a suspension may well be amorphous or contain crystals, but "crystalline suspension" does not sound like an Approved Name at all. Such names, however, are sometimes established elsewhere, and may have World Health Organisation, or even American, approval before they come before our committee. To find names which are short, euphonious, and even remotely chemically descriptive, free from the intolerable complications of close resemblance to names already established, and acceptable to manufacturers, the Patents Office and our friends at home and abroad, is a task which calls for incredible ingenuity and perhaps an element of inspiration and luck as well. Some brilliant successes have been achieved—like the names mustine and nalorphine—the latter much ahead, to my mind, of the U.S.A.'s nalline or the more picturesque proprietary name Lethidrone. I am not sure that lignocaine is an improvement on Xylocaine or will replace this in general usage.

Without attempting to discuss deletions *seriatim*, one may make certain generalisations and refer to just a few. Some are drugs which have failed to fulfil the promise of their youth and have never become established. Ethylene is one such. Some have proved occasionally dangerous, such as aconite, amidopyrine and sulphonal. Compound preparations have been dealt with severely. The purgatives, especially the more drastic ones like colocynth, ipomoea, podophyllum (apart from the resin, which the dermatologists still use for a local application) have been heavily cut. No pharmacologist is likely to quarrel with that, but he may shed a tear on parting with ergot—a good lecture subject—and with the injection of posterior pituitary. The important alkaloids of ergot and the separated pituitary principles are, of course, retained.

The deletion of diamorphine is, in a sense, a political deletion, for there is no problem of any magnitude in diamorphine addiction in this country. But increase in diamorphine consumption abroad had gone on in spite of the ban upon its manufacture and importation in the United States and elsewhere. Whether its disappearance from the B.P. and N.F. is the best way in which we can or should show our support of W.H.O. and our sympathy with countries in which heroin addiction is a problem seems to me open to question, and surely it would be a pity if our doctors were to continue to prescribe this drug with no standard for it provided in our usual books of reference.

A large proportion of the additions is taken up by the new preparations of established drugs—capsules and tablets, injections and implants. These should increase the elegance and efficiency of our prescribing.

As to new drugs, mention may be made of Aureomycin or Chlortetracycline, an established wide-spectrum antibiotic which is active by mouth, and Cyanocobalamin—the haemopoietic principle, one-tenth of a milligramme of which may sustain the pernicious anaemia patient for three weeks. Globin Zinc Insulin, an insulin preparation intermediate in duration of action between soluble insulin and P.Z.I., has perhaps won recognition too late, and will lose its place to one of the new suspensions. Methadone, a synthetic analgesic, although unpopular with ambulant patients, is often effective in the bedridden; whilst Methoin, a relation of Phenytoin, has certain advantages claimed for it in the treatment of major epilepsy. Testosterone gives a somewhat belated additional recognition to the possible importance of androgens. While not suggesting that it ranks in importance with the oestrogens, its range of applications has increased in both sexes. Another addition is Troxidone, often successful in petit mal, but the use of which is fraught with the risk of agranulocytosis. Sterilised Surgical Catgut certainly breaks new ground as a monograph in the B.P. Shall we in future extend to other suture materials and then to surgical dressings? The Commission has the authority to do so in its present terms of reference.

Compound Preparations and Posology.

The list of compound preparations is now reduced to 16. Four are mainly for use by the surgeon, and of these perhaps the Injection of Quinine and Urethane has survived its period of usefulness. Half of the others are possibly out of place in the Pharmacopoeia. Should a book of standards contain Dover's Powder, Gregory Powder, Compound Liquorice Powder, Compound Tincture of Benzoin, Tablets of Aspirin and Dover's Powder, Eye Ointment of Atropine and Mercuric Oxide? Probably the best place for such preparations is the Formulary section of the Codex, and I fancy that a special plea from some influential quarter for the retention of these monographs is the explanation of the survival.

It is clearly stated in the General Notices that the B.P. doses are merely recommended and can be exceeded, the onus of checking possibly excessive doses being laid on the pharmacist. There was a time when the limits set indicated the minimal dose having the characteristic actions of the medicament, and a larger dose which could be given safely three times a day. But such drugs as the organic arsenicals put a stop to such simplicity. Later, "single" and "maintenance" doses were introduced, and this is now extended by the recommended "loading" dose and advice as to the intervals at which "maintenance" doses should be administered. This is important where resistance is rapidly developed to a bacteriostatic and where for effective action a minimal concentration in the blood stream must be maintained, as with sulphonamides. Some of these are repeated at four-hourly intervals; others, less rapidly "cleared" by the kidneys, every six hours. In some cases, instead of a single dose, the daily total is given, to be administered in divided doses, and the relative needs of adult and child are recognised, e.g., for Troxidone. In some cases, such as Neostigmine, the frequency of dosage is so variable that the B.P. stipulates that this is "to be determined by the physician in accordance with the needs of the patient," and a few very varying doses, as for the muscle relaxants Tubocurarine and Decamethonium, are left similarly without limits. The sex differences in the need of sex-hormones have been carefully considered and recognised.

New dosage forms are recognised in Capsules and Implants. Here, and in the cases of Tablets and Injections, doses to be dispensed in the absence of appropriate instructions from the prescriber are laid down. Such absence of definite instructions in prescriptions puts added responsibility on the pharmacist, and is not very unusual, I am told. When a drug is applied for its local action the B.P. does not usually indicate

the appropriate concentration or range of concentrations. This seems unfortunate, and it is perhaps also unfortunate to put an emetic dose for copper and zinc sulphates instead of an appropriate concentration which will safely produce the desired degree of gastric irritation. The dosage details in same cases, e.g., Ethyl Biscoumacetate, "0.15-1G. daily, according to the prothrombin content of the blood," or Ergometrine, with oral, subcutaneous and intravenous doses, almost suggest that a further extension of such information to cover uses and speed and duration of actions should follow. The desirability of such inclusions is still *sub judice* as far as a new B.P. is concerned, but nothing comparable to the "Actions and Uses" section of the Codex is contemplated.

Notable Omissions.

Decisions about what to omit and what to include are often difficult, and no Commission can hope to please and satisfy everyone all the time. In the case of such a series as the barbiturates should all established and widely used drugs be included? No one will deny that this group is substantially represented: Barbitone and Sodium Barbitone, Phenobarbitone and Sodium Phenobarbitone, Methylphenobarbitone, Sodium Pentobarbitone, Sodium Quinalbarbitone, Hexobarbitone and Sodium Hexobarbitone, Sodium Thiopentone. The Pharmacology Committee thought pento- a better drug than amyl- and buto-, quinal- better than cyclo-, Thiopentone preferable to thialbarbitone. But one learns, examining medical students up and down the country, that amyl- is fashionable in London, cyclo- in Edinburgh, buto- in Lancashire. One hopes that such fashions represent the considered opinions of teachers rather than concentration of activities of the manufacturers in advertising them. Probably all these are good drugs, and our committee may have been too hard to please, and should perhaps have put all these up for inclusion. Perhaps the time has come to delete Barbitone itself as a too long-lasting and cumulative drug, but Sodium Barbitone is still very widely prescribed. Some of us think these and the hexobarbitones might now be considered for deletion. Methylphenobarbitone hardly seems to have established itself.

Similarly with antihistaminics. The pharmacologists thought Mepyramine the best of the short-acting and Promethazine of the long-lasting drugs. They condemned diphenhydramine because of the drowsiness or worse that it provokes, and preferred Hyoscine for the treatment of motion-sickness to dimenhydrinate. At the time of making this selection—some four years ago—experience of chlorcyclizine and phenindamine was probably too limited for their inclusion; it must always be remembered that the bulk of such a book as the B.P. must be reasonably complete two years before its publication. And here I should, I think, interject that when the Pharmacology Committee recommended Mepyramine and Promethazine for inclusion, none of us realised the difficulties that would arise because bulk supplies of these compounds have not been made available for dispensing purposes. If the pharmacist is to have no freedom in dispensing a particular medicine, and is unable to maintain B.P. standards, e.g., as regards freedom from colour in tablets, perhaps such drugs should be refused the cachet of B.P. recognition.

Antimalarials and Sulphonamides.

In the case of the antimalarials, chloroquine and camoquin are often described as the drugs of choice today. Pentaquine is regarded as less toxic and more potent than Pamaquin, and should therefore replace it, although it is still too toxic for routine regular use. Pyrimethamine (Daraprim), like Proguanil, is slow acting, but its lasting action should commend it for a place as a suppressive in the B.P. on the evidence now available. But there are other promising antimalarials, and we continue to hope for a drug which will attack all forms and stages of the malarial parasite,

a drug which will be a true causal prophylactic, non-toxic to the host, quick in controlling fever, free from a high relapse rate.

As regards sulphonamides, I am not now clear why phthalylsulphathiazole was not included—perhaps we thought it too close in its action to Succinylsulphathiazole. By general consent it is safer and more efficient than Sulphaguanidine, the other official sulphonamide for intestinal infections. Oral antibiotics may well displace this group of intestinal bacteriostatics in the course of a year or two. Sulphamerazine has a wide spectrum, a good reputation for sustained action, and is a common constituent of sulphonamide mixtures. Sulphafurazole (Gantrisin) and sulphasomidine (Elkosin) are claimed to have advantages which may justify their inclusion, such as greater solubility. Apart from Sulphaguanidine, I am not sure that we can delete from the accepted representatives of this group at present.

The following are among other drugs which may be considered for inclusion in the next B.P. or in an Addendum:—

Isoniazid. In the light of the recent report of the M.R.C. Committee on Tuberculosis it is clear that isoniazid is an important addition to the drugs which attack the tubercle bacillus. Not only can it substitute for P.A.S., but it may replace Streptomycin and save the injections, the dizziness and the deafness which may follow in the train of this antibiotic. But again, isoniazid must not be used alone, or a resistant strain of tubercle bacilli quickly results. The tubercle bacilli must apparently always be attacked on two fronts.

Insulin Zinc Suspension—amorphous and crystalline—and I dislike "ultra-lente" almost more than "insulin zinc suspension crystalline" for a name—are delayed or protracted-action insulins free from the foreign protein of the protamine in P.Z.I. They are acetate-buffered, miscible without losing their identities, and the available reports suggest that they may replace P.Z.I. and Globin Insulin. Some of our foremost authorities are unhappy about their possibly premature release and the risks involved in there being seven insulins generally available for the treatment of the diabetic.

Noradrenaline, so far, is perhaps of academic and physiological rather than of therapeutic interest and importance.

Disulfiram (Antabuse) threatens to wither before it has ever bloomed into official recognition. The enthusiasm in Scandinavia for its value in the treatment of the alcoholic is not reflected in British psychiatric circles—it is regarded as dangerous and inferior to Apomorphine.

Phenylbutazone (Butazolidin), discussed by the Empire Rheumatism Council at a special symposium recently, is apparently more analgesic than anti-rheumatic. It provokes a high incidence of toxic effects and side actions—22 per cent. in New York, 25 per cent. in Sheffield, 37 per cent. in a large-scale trial in London. Yet in Glasgow "not only was the incidence of toxicity extremely low, but even mild side effects were rarely seen"—in some 1200 subjects under treatment. It is suggested from Glasgow that the simultaneous use of barbiturates and/or amidopyrine may seriously increase the risks charged to phenylbutazone.

Levorphan is a potent analgesic with a longer action than Morphine and a lower incidence of nausea and vomiting, but it is not free from Morphine's disadvantages and dangers.

Nalorphine is a remarkable antidote to acute poisoning with opiates, Pethidine and Methadone. Besides relieving the respiratory depression and other symptoms of poisoning with these drugs, it is useful in the diagnosis of the addict, in whom it provokes acute withdrawal symptoms.

D.F.P. and **T.E.P.P.** are powerful anticholinesterases, used as alternatives to Physostigmine, and D.F.P. produces a long and useful lowering of intra-ocular tension in glaucoma. But these drugs were developed as pos-

sible poisons for use in war, and are perhaps too dangerous for wide use.

Oxytetracycline (terramycin) and *Neomycin* have as yet hardly had sufficiently wide trials in this country. According to the reports of the recent Washington Antibiotics Conference, tetracycline itself may prove better than either, and improved compounds may be developed from this simpler base.

Glycols and *Macrogols* are important as pharmaceutical solvents and emulsion stabilisers.

Dextran appears to be the outstanding transfusion substitute for blood—a specification for an injection of dextran is now being prepared. Molecular size is the important element in such an injection, and must be carefully controlled.

Radioactive iodine and phosphorus are being used in the treatment of tumours of the thyroid gland and of bone. It is still difficult to assess their value as compared with surgery and deep X-ray therapy, but at present there is certainly a place for all these approaches to the cancer treatment problem.

Hexamethonium is a ganglion-blocking agent which can facilitate the surgeon's work because it lowers blood pressure and reduces hæmorrhage. It may also prove its value in the treatment of hypertension, but this is a much more difficult use to establish.

Gallamine (Flaxedil) is probably the most popular synthetic substitute for Tubocurarine, and most anaesthetists prefer it as a relaxant.

Mephnesin (Myanesin) is a useful depressant of the reflex activity of the spinal cord.

Phenylindanedione is the fashionable anticoagulant at present. When Ethyl Biscoumacetate replaced dicoumarol in the B.P., we little realised how short its period of popularity was to be.

Piperazine hydrate (Antepar) seems to promise to do what Gentian Violet and Diphenan often fail to do to the ubiquitous threadworm, and safely. If so, it should replace them.

Diethylcarbamazine (Hetrazan) is a potent and important antiprotozoal remedy. There are also a great many other reasonably established drugs, such as the modern substitutes for belladonna in Parkinsonism, which I have not listed.

In conclusion, can I venture on an assessment of the 1953 B.F. from a pharmacologist's point of view? As I have said before, several good pharmacists who started by actively disliking the volume have substantially revised their first estimates. Three professors of pharmacology, in the course of the past month, have assured me that they think the 1953 edition is the best yet produced. I hope they are right. I, of course, agree with them.

SUGAR-COATED PENICILLIN TABLETS INTRODUCED BY U.K. FIRM

The first sugar-coated penicillin tablets ever to be made have been introduced by a leading British pharmaceutical firm, and will soon be on sale throughout the world.

A new method of coating, called press coating, has made possible the introduction of the tablets. The usual method of coating (pan-coating) involves the application of moisture-containing syrup which would render the penicillin inactive.

With the press-coating method, a suitable coating is pressed dry on to a ready-formed tablet, and the effectiveness of the penicillin is thus not affected. For producing coated tablets, the company uses a rotary tablet press having a revolving die plate and upper and lower punches revolving coaxially with it. A layer of suitable coating material in the form of fine granules is fed into the die after lowering the bottom punch. The tablet to be coated (the "core tablet") is then inserted with a special feeding mechanism. The core tablet may not be central at this stage, but a

centring device has been designed that takes over after the core tablet has been fed into the machine and mechanically centres it. Then a further layer of coating granules is placed into the die on top of the core tablet. The core tablet and its coating next pass between the pressure rolls on the machine, and the coating is pressed on to the core tablet as a glossy-hard skin. The process can be carried out at a rate of 20,000 tablets an hour per machine.

The makers claim that press-coated tablets can be made to disintegrate more readily than tablets prepared by conventional means, since they need not be compressed so hard, and there is no need for a protective coating. It is also claimed that there is no danger that the sugar-coated penicillin will lose its stability.—U.K. Information Office.

PESTICIDES AND THEIR TOXIC HAZARDS FOR MAN

[Abstract of article by George C. Decker in "Nature," December 19, 1953, p. 1125.]

Dr. Decker begins his article with a brief statement of the significance of the tremendous impact of insect activity in transmitting diseases on the course of history. He then draws attention to the ravages of insects in the agricultural sphere, where losses of from 10 to 50 per cent. of production are ascribed to pests.

To control such pests it is necessary to use chemicals with toxic properties, and it is essential that hazards accompanying their use should be properly evaluated.

Dr. Decker makes the following points as the basis for a logical approach to the subject:

- (1) Most pesticides are toxic to man and other warm-blooded animals as well as insects, otherwise they would probably be of very little value.
- (2) Their toxic nature does not necessarily preclude their safe use; this is a matter of proper education.
- (3) "Hazard" and "toxicity" must not be confused. To evaluate hazards, the manner in which a potentially poisonous substance is to be used must be well known.
- (4) Hazards are of two kinds—use or operation hazards, and residue or food contamination hazards.

There is much propaganda both for and against the widespread use of pesticides, and Dr. Decker advocates a middle course between optimism and pessimism as to their value. He draws parallels between the hazards and values of such daily "necessities" as fire, the motor car, drugs and pharmaceuticals, and points out the danger of improper use of drugs which include some of the "more toxic and dangerous of the chemicals known to man."

Attention is drawn to the responsibility to the public of those who develop, test and promote the use of pesticides. Emphasis is placed on the need for thorough understanding of the many problems by the ultimate user of such compounds.

Dr. Decker roundly condemns the expression of fears and apprehensions by learned scientists not qualified to speak with authority on this subject, in the face of "cold, hard data and scientific facts" of the specialists in the field.

To help in overcoming the confusion arising out of heated controversy, Dr. Decker looks to the very excellent report "Toxic Hazards of Pesticides to Man" by J. M. Barnes, World Health Organisation, Monograph Series No. 16, H.M. Stationery Office, London, 1953. (English price 7/6.) A brief review of this report is included in the article in "Nature."

Dr. Decker thinks highly enough of the subject matter to write: "Dr. Barnes' paper should be considered as essential for all who are in any way interested in problems associated with the use of pesticides. In a sense, this report is destined to become the old testament for a new but rapidly developing school of thought and philosophy."—A.J.C.

DISPENSING PROBLEMS

Reaction of Sulphacetamide Sodium with Metal.

The problem raised by J.H. (Vic.) in the February, 1954, issue of this Journal concerning the discoloration of 10% "Solutox" dispensed in a metal-fitted spray has been investigated at the Victorian College of Pharmacy by the writer. The information gained is submitted as being of general interest.

The investigation was restricted to the effect on solutions of sodium sulphacetamide of metals likely to be found in the metal fittings of sprays. Such were considered to be brass, iron, copper, nickel and chromium, since the fittings would be fabricated possibly of iron or brass and plated with nickel or chromium over an undercoat of copper.

In order to test the separate effects of these metals, solutions of sodium sulphacetamide were boiled both with the metals themselves and also with traces of soluble salts of the metals.

The results of these various treatments were as follows:

Iron and chromium produced only the faintest yellow and bluish tints respectively in the solution and nickel showed a faint green coloration. These colours did not intensify on standing for several days.

Copper metal and salts both produced an immediate darkening of the solution, which rapidly became very dark brown in colour. The effect was heightened by exposure to copper in contact with air. A heavy brownish deposit was also formed in the solution.

A similar effect was found with copper in contact with other sulphonamides in solution as their sodium salts.

Brass slowly produced a light yellow discoloration in the solution, but the alloying of copper with zinc apparently slows down the reaction very considerably. Zinc alone does not cause discoloration, and, as a point of general interest, neither does mercury. (Mercurial derivatives of sulphonamides have been proposed as antiseptics.)

The slight darkening of solutions of sodium sulphacetamide alone, or with zinc sulphate which occurs on heating for sterilization (eye-drops) is most probably due to traces of copper in tap water from copper piping, or in distilled water from a metal still with exposed copper surfaces. (It will be recalled that traces of copper from such sources can catalyse the decomposition of hydrogen peroxide solutions.)

The conclusion reached is that solution of sulphonamides should never be exposed to the possibility of contact with copper and hence such solutions should invariably be dispensed in glass containers, as was finally done by J.H.

—A. J. COBROFT (Vic.).

Skin Sensitivity to Alcohol plus Overstrength.

R/ Acid Salicyl., 20 gr.
Acid Benz., 15 gr.
Aq. ad $\frac{1}{2}$ fl. oz.
Ft. pig. Mitte 4 fl. oz.

Sig. Use as a paint twice daily.

As a precedent could not be found for the apparent strengths of Acid Salicyl. and Acid Benz. if the prescription read "Aquam ad 5p," it was decided to contact the prescriber.



His intentions proved to be as expected, i.e., "Aquam ad 5 iv"; and as the patient exhibited a sensitivity to spirit, this also explained the apparent physical incompatibility of the relative insolubility of both Acid Salicyl. and Acid Benz. in the aqueous vehicle.

This was overcome by triturating both to form a magma, suspending with Methyl Cellulose 1 per cent., and dispensing with a "Shake the bottle" label.

—J.D.C. (Vic.).

Insufficient Basis for Manufacturer's Convention.

The following note recently appeared on a wholesaler's periodical trade circular:—

Please Note.

May and Baker detail Vegolysen T (Hexamethonium Bitartrate). They say, if a doctor prescribes Vegolysen and does not write T or Bromide, **T should be supplied.** Therefore,

Vegolysen T will be supplied if a member does not specify.

There is not enough basis for this convention of the manufacturer. If the manufacturer has established that the tartrate is preferred for general use, the name Vegolysen might be restricted to the tartrate. The bromide then could be specified when desired.

Gentian Violet in Zinc Paste.

The following script, taken from an English textbook of Diseases of the Skin, was presented recently, and my method of dispensing same may be of interest. The preparation was used for a "naprash" on infants.

R/ Gentian Violet 1%
Ol. Ricin.
Zinc Oxid. aa ad 1 oz.
Ft. Applic.

The Gentian Violet was rubbed down with 10 or 12 drops of 95 per cent. alcohol, and then rubbed in with the Ol. Ricin., lastly incorporating the Zinc Oxid.

A smooth, purplish cream resulted.

Gentian Violet is very soluble in 95 per cent. alcohol, but only about 1 in 200 of distilled water, and I used 95 per cent. alcohol, not S.V.R., as I was uncertain of solubility in an alcohol containing small percentages of water.

Hoping that this will be useful to some other chemist.

—A.W. (Vic.).

The "Gentian Violet" referred to by the correspondent is the Medicinal Gentian Violet of the B.P.

Calamine Lotion with Tar.

Coal Tar	60 grains
Calamine	150 grains
Zinc Oxide	50 grains
Glycerin	60 minims
Water	to 2 fl. oz.

The tar is quite intractable, but may be incorporated with the aid of Ung. Emulsificans Aquosum, using 80-90 grains of the ointment to each fluid ounce of product.

The tar is absorbed in the hydrous emulsifying ointment by trituration. Small portions of the powders are added and triturated with sufficient water and glycerin to maintain the preparation as a thin cream. When all the powders are incorporated, make up to volume with the remainder of the vehicle.

—E.F.L. (S.A.).

First Aid Treatment in Open Shop

P.D.L. Opinion on Responsibilities and Legal Liability

An interesting opinion obtained by the New South Wales Local Board of Pharmaceutical Defence Limited is published with their concurrence for the information and guidance of chemists generally, since conditions applicable to such treatment in all States of the Commonwealth are substantially comparable. An earlier factual record of the practice of retail pharmacy in the second half of the nineteenth century was published in "A.J.P.," April, 1927, under the title, "The Rights and Privileges of Pharmaceutical Chemists," with the authority of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, which in 1927 gathered sworn evidence from a number of pharmaceutical chemists who had been in business prior to 1876.

The statement of the case and questions addressed to Messrs. Dawson, Waldron, Edwards and Nicholls, of Sydney, Solicitors to the New South Wales Branch of P.D.L., were as follows:—

Every chemist in business has the occasional experience of being called upon for simple first aid by members of the public; such as removal of a foreign body from the eye, or, perhaps, extraction of a splinter from the hand. The public resorts to the chemist for such services as a matter of course; the grocer or other shopkeeper is not thought of in this connection.

For such simple services as those above it is usual to make no charge whatsoever. In some instances, however, though no direct charge is made, there is an accompanying sale of ancillary goods, such as iodine, adhesive plaster or surgical dressing. These would be sold generally at ordinary retail prices.

In the event of, say, the eye or the hand becoming infected, and temporary or permanent damage or disablement result or appear to result from the service, could a claim at law for damages against the chemist be sustained—

1. Where no charge was made.
2. If a charge was made for the first aid.
3. If the goods required for the first aid were sold, but no charge was made for the service.
4. Where examination of the patient evidenced a condition obviously requiring skilled medical attention, but nevertheless the chemist persisted in his "first aid," thereby aggravating the condition.

As you will appreciate in some cases the patient may not even be aware that the chemist is or has afforded him any first aid attention, for he may have been unconscious when brought into the shop, or be otherwise incapable of personally dealing with the chemist in question.

Solicitors' Opinion.

The advice from Messrs. Dawson, Waldron, Edwards & Nicholls, under date November 20, 1953, was as follows:—

We note that questions have arisen as to the position of a chemist in circumstances which quite often arise when a chemist is called upon to render simple first aid by members of the public, such as removal of a foreign body from an eye, or extraction of a splinter from a hand. We understand that certain of your members have the impression that where such a service is performed gratuitously, and when called upon in an emergency, there can be no liability upon the chemist if damage results from something which he has done. However, the position is not quite as simple as this.

Before answering the specific questions asked, the general principles applicable are as follows:—

Liability for damage resulting from negligence can only arise where there exists a duty owed to the claimant to take care. The chemist is under no duty to undertake the first aid service, but having undertaken it, whether with or without the knowledge of the person concerned, the law then imposes upon him a duty to take care in relation to that individual. The degree of care to be exercised varies with the circumstances. Three positions arise, (a) where the chemist,

without professing to be skilled in any particular way, performs a service for another without reward; (b) where the chemist holds himself out as possessing a special skill, and performs a service for another without reward; and (c) where the chemist does not act gratuitously, and there exists a contractual relationship between the chemist and the person treated.

Different degrees of care are required in each of the above circumstances.

In regard to (a), the chemist who does not profess to be skilled, and acts gratuitously, is only bound to exercise honestly that care which he as an ordinary prudent man would exercise if acting on his own behalf. He is not to be held liable for a mistake or for an error of judgment which a reasonably prudent man might commit or for mere non-success.

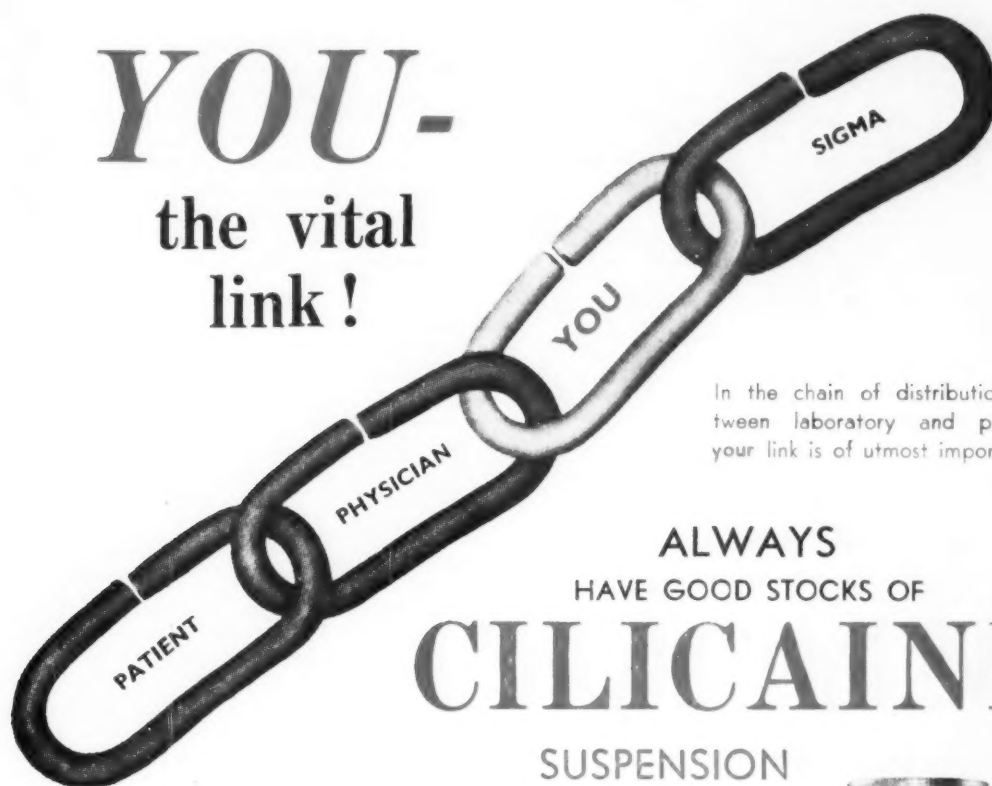
In regard to (b), the chemist who holds himself out as possessing special skill, but acts gratuitously, is under a duty to perform the service to the best of his skill, which must be such as a person skilled in such matters may reasonably be expected to possess. A person may be held to be skilled in a particular way if he either expressly or impliedly so represents himself.

In regard to (c), where there is a true contractual relationship between the parties (for example similar to that where a doctor in consideration of an agreed fee undertakes to perform an operation) failure to exercise care in the performance of the contract would give rise to an action for damages. Thus, negligence has to be established in a claim based on contract, the degree of care required being the same as in (a) above (where there is no holding out of skill) and the same as in (b) above (where skill is professed). In a claim based on breach of contract the measure of damages would be the same as in negligence, and the period of limitation of action would be the same; thus in circumstances of the kind under consideration the existence of a contractual relationship would not greatly alter the chemist's liability. Further, category (c) above is not likely to be common in the case of chemists acting in the circumstances being considered. Where the chemist acts in an emergency, there is hardly likely to be any previous agreement between the parties that he will act for a consideration. If after rendering the first aid service the chemist accepts a payment offered, this might be some evidence of such an agreement, but it does not of itself establish one.

It will be seen that it is important to know whether a chemist holds himself out as possessing special skill of the kind required in the particular circumstances. He could hold himself out as possessing special skill either expressly or by implication from his conduct.

We understand that a chemist's training does not include first aid or the diagnosis or treatment of ailments or injuries. On the other hand, it does involve a knowledge of the properties of chemicals and goods dispensed. For example, a chemist may be expected to know the effect of eye drops which he provides, but may not be expected to know how to treat a fracture. The fact that the public habitually resorts to the chemist for services of the kind mentioned, rather than persons of some other calling, does not

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establish that the chemist holds himself out as possessing special skill in that direction. This would be a question of fact to be determined in each particular case. If a chemist expressly or by implication holds himself out as possessing skill, he would be liable to exercise the higher standard of care thereby required, but if he does not, he will be in the same position as a layman who volunteers to render assistance, but as above stated, in either event, he owes a duty to take care.

A chemist may expressly hold himself out as possessing special skill if, for example, he practises as a "Consulting Chemist" or if on the particular occasion before undertaking the service he expressly states that he has the necessary qualifications to deal with it. The chemist by implication holds himself out as possessing special skill in regard to a particular condition if it is one obviously requiring skilled medical attention (e.g. an obvious broken limb), and the chemist nevertheless undertakes to render assistance not immediately necessary in an emergency and causes damage. Without attempting to go into the question whether or not by tradition and custom of the profession chemists as such hold themselves out as possessing the skill to treat (or diagnose) simple ailments which the public may consider too trivial to require medical or hospital attention, there is at least the probability that in many circumstances a chemist may be required by reason of his profession to exercise a higher degree of skill than a layman. It is therefore reasonable to consider that the chemist is subject to a greater potential risk of claims than the man in the street.

In answer to the specific questions stated in your letter, we have to advise as follows:—

1. Where no charge is made—a claim for damages could be sustained if the chemist acted negligently, but to establish negligence the claimant would have to show (a) that the chemist failed to exercise the degree of care which any ordinary prudent man would exercise if acting on his own behalf, or (b) that the chemist expressly or by implication held himself out as possessing special skill, and that he failed to perform the act to the best of his skill, which must be such as a person skilled in such matters may reasonably have been expected to possess. Thus, there are two possible positions in regard to this question, one where the chemist does not hold himself out as possessing any special skill, and the other where there is such a holding out.
2. If a charge was made for the first aid—a claim for damages could be sustained in the same circumstances as mentioned under (1), and in addition the claimant could include a count for damages for breach of an express or implied contract for services. Under the contract count a claimant would still have to establish negligence in the performance of the contract, the proof thereof required being the same as in (1) above, and the measure of damages being the same.
3. If the goods required for the first aid were sold, and no charge were made for the service—a claim for damages could be sustained in the same circumstances as in (1) above. Payment by the patient for the goods supplied would not normally amount to evidence establishing an implied contract for services.
4. Where the examination of the patient evidenced a condition obviously requiring skilled medical attention, but nevertheless the chemist persisted in his first aid, thereby aggravating the condition—in this instance we think that the chemist's interference resulting in aggravation of the damage would amount to negligence, whether or not he held himself out as possessing special skill, and he would be liable for the aggravation caused.

It is noted that in some cases the patient may not be aware that the chemist is affording him first aid attention. The chemist would nevertheless be liable to the patient for negligence in respect of the services rendered, subject to the above qualifications in regard to the standard of care required in the particular circumstances.

In the event of action by the patient against the chemist, the question whether or not the circumstances give rise to a duty of care owed by the chemist to the patient would be a question of law for the Judge. If it is held that a duty of care exists, the further question as to the degree of care required in the particular circumstances is also a matter of law for the Judge. The final question whether or not the chemist has acted in accordance with the standard of care required in the circumstances is a question of fact to be determined by the Court or Jury if there is one. It is, of course, obvious that so far as questions of fact are involved, the result would depend on the evidence adduced as to the particular circumstances in each case.

In conclusion, it must be said that a chemist is not safe from the possibility of a claim where he intervenes to render assistance, even gratuitously, and damage results from his acts in addition to the damage due to the original injury or condition which the chemist is called upon to relieve.

ANTIBIOTICS WITHOUT PRESCRIPTION IN U.S.A.

At least 12 types of antibiotic products can be sold by pharmacists **without prescriptions**, according to the Proprietary Association. These fall into two classes: (1) Antibiotics which must be certified by the U.S. Food and Drugs Administration, but which have been released for sale without prescription; and (2) products including antibiotics for which certification has not been received. The first group includes mainly troches and ointments of bacitracin, neomycin and polymyxin. In the second group are certain preparations containing neomycin and thiothricin in ointments and nose drops.—"Pharmacy International."

HOW TO CONTROL ARGENTINE ANTS

Argentine ants can be controlled by spraying the external walls of houses to a height of three feet, the paths, lower portions of boundary fences, trunks of trees, and any rock work, with a 0.25 per cent. emulsion of Dieldrin, Chlordane or D.D.T. These are obtainable from most garden supply stores, and directions for mixing will be found on the containers.

About 12 to 15 gallons of prepared spray will be required for the average sized house block. If a suitable spray is not available, a brush or mop may be used.

Mr. H. B. Wilson, entomologist of the Victorian Department of Agriculture, advises that the effect of this treatment will last two months, but that stronger preparations—up to 1 per cent. for Dieldrin or 2 per cent. for Chlordane and D.D.T.—have given satisfactory control for periods of nine months and over.

In using these chemicals, avoid inhaling the vapours or spray, or contact with the skin. Wash the skin and clothes thoroughly after using.

If ants continue to enter the house after spray treatment, poison bait made to the standard Government formula is effective in destroying their colonies. This bait is obtainable from most chemists.

If possible, arrange for adjacent house blocks to be sprayed at the same time as you do your property. This will reduce the risk of re-infestation. Try to treat any group of properties bounded by a road, as a unit. As Argentine ants do not cross them readily, roads are useful boundaries for spray treatments.—Department of Agriculture, Victoria ("News Bulletin" No. 504, March 30, 1954).

Plasters for Henry VIII of England

By Frank A. King.

At the British Museum in London is a large thin quarto volume entitled *A Booke of plaisters, spasmodrops, ointments, pulthes, etc., devysed by the King's Majestie, Dr. Butts, Dr. Chambre, Dr. Cromer and Dr. Augustin.*

This medical treatise, consisting of 94 manuscript folios, was compiled for the use of much-married King Henry VIII of England, whose keen interest in the practice of medicine is often forgotten by historians.

The pages of the book are still in good condition, and the handwriting can be easily deciphered. The book contains some 130 prescriptions covering 39 plasters, 4 spasmodrops, 50 ointments, 5 balms, 12 waters, lotions and decoctions, and 8 pulthes, or poultices or cataplasms.

Most of the prescriptions are for external application, and it is assumed that these were used by the Tudor King in his later years when he became very stout and suffered from various ailments in his legs. Included in the book is a "plaister to resolve humoures where there is swelling in the legges," a "plaister to resolve and cease payne," a "plaister to take away inflacons (= inflammations) and cease payne and heale excoracons (= excoriations)," and one "to ease the payne and swelling about the ancles," and a plaster for "waterish humoures in the legges."

In 1527, when Henry was 36 years of age, he suffered from an ulcer in the leg which was cured by Dr. Thomas Vicary. This appears to have been a varicose ulcer, and there is no evidence to suggest that he ever acquired syphilis or that the ulcer was luetic. Eleven years later, in 1536, when he was 44, Henry was injured at a tournament when he was unhorsed and unconscious for about two hours. Probably this fall broke open the ulcer again, as after this accident he was repeatedly troubled with his legs, and, by his own account, both legs were ulcerated—"callous or chronic" ulcers which discharged freely. When the discharges ceased through clotting of the veins, septic absorption developed, and the King suffered from attacks of fever.

Two years later, in 1538, Henry was again ill—probably with an attack of pulmonary embolism or cardiac infection from the detachment of a clot in the veins of the leg. Unless he was very ill, he would not rest his leg, nor curb his eating and drinking.

When he died, on January 27, 1547, at the age of 55, his death may have been caused through a clot in the veins of the leg. For the last two years of his life he was in great pain and aged visibly, but continued with his State duties.

According to the *Annals of the Barber Surgeons*, Vicary "had the good fortune to cure the King of a sorre legge for which he was promised the post of Sergeant Surgeon." Vicary was probably born in Kent, and one of the duties of the Royal Surgeon was to attend at the torturing or maiming of a State prisoner. Torture was not to be prolonged to endanger the prisoner's life; after maiming, the Royal Surgeon had to check haemorrhage and dress the mutilated stump. The ceremony was a dread and solemn proceeding:

"The Sergeant Chirurgion came with his instruments; the Sergeant of the Woodward with mallet and block where the hand was to lie; the King's Master Cook with the knife; the Sergeant of the Larder to set the knife right on the joint; the Sergeant Farrier with searing irons to sear the blood vessels; the Sergeant of the Poultry with a cock to be killed on the same block with the same knife; the Yeoman of the Chandry with sear cloths; the Yeoman of the Scullery with a pan of fire to heat the irons; a chafer of water to cool the irons, and two forms for the officers to set their stuff on; and, lastly, the Yeoman of the Ewrie with a basin, ewer and towels."

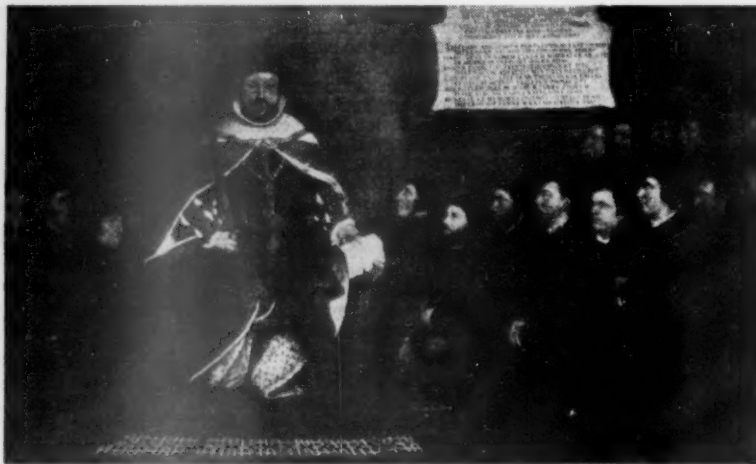
But the four surgeons who compiled the book of plasters were not involved in such matters.

In the National Portrait Gallery in London is a picture by Holbein of Sir William Butts, a typical physician of the period. He is shown wearing a flat black cap, a black gown, clean shaven, grey haired, firm lips and chin, with kind understanding eyes and an expression of benignity and wisdom.

Butts, born about 1485, was Henry's favourite and most trusted physician. He was born in Norfolk, and was educated at Gonville Hall, Cambridge. He became a fellow, proceeded to B.A. in 1506, M.A. in 1509 and M.D. in 1518, and became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in 1529, but he did not hold any office of the College, probably because he had little time to do so, as in 1524 he was appointed Physician to the King and at the same time was allowed to continue his large practice amongst the nobility. His patients included Anne Boleyn (Henry's second wife), Jane Seymour (Henry's third wife), Princess Mary (Henry's first daughter), Henry Fitzroy (Henry's son by his mistress, Elizabeth Blount), George Boleyn (Anne's brother) and Lord Rochford (her father).

Butts received from the King a salary of £100 a year, later increased by 40 marks (about £13), with an additional £20 for attending Henry Fitzroy when he became Duke of Richmond.

As physician to Princess Mary (later Mary I of England, "Bloody Mary") Butts received a livery of



—Illustration by courtesy of the Melbourne Public Library.

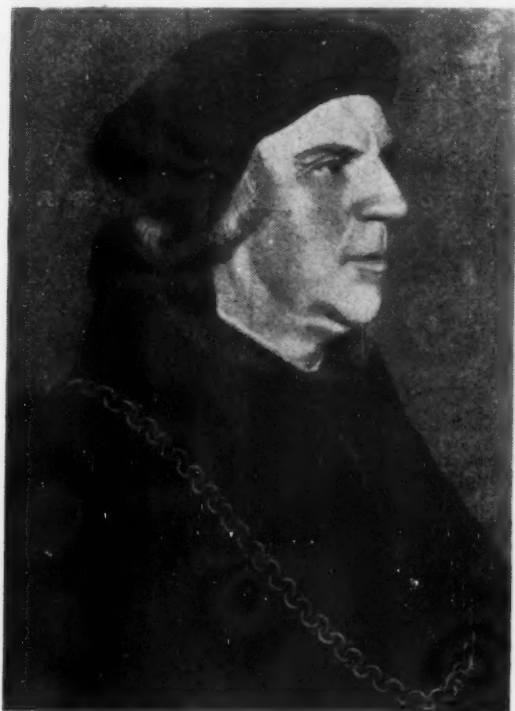
King Henry VIII Granting a Charter of Incorporation to the Barber-Surgeons' Company. (1542-43, London, Barber-Surgeons' Hall.)

blue and green damask for himself and his two servants, and cloth for an apothecary.

After the Dissolution of the Monasteries, Henry distributed some of the estates to his physicians, and Butts was given the chapter-house of a Carmelite convent on the banks of the Thames. Butts married Margaret Bacon, of Cambridgeshire, who was lady-in-waiting to Princess Mary, and they had three sons.

Butts died on November 17, 1545, and was buried in Fulham Church.

Dr. John Chambre, the second author mentioned on the title page of the Royal Book of Plasters, was born at Northumberland, and was intended for the priesthood. He was educated at Oxford, and in 1492 was elected to a Fellowship of Merton College. He also had a living at Tychmarsh, in Northamptonshire. After taking his degree of M.A. he travelled through Italy in 1502, and after studying at Padua took his degree of M.D. there. When he returned to England he was appointed one of the Royal physicians. He was made Canon of Windsor, and in 1524 Archdeacon of Bedford. In 1523 he was Censor of the College of Physicians. He was elected Warden of Merton College in 1526,



—Illustration by courtesy of the Melbourne Public Library.
Sir William Butts, Physician to King Henry VIII.
(About 1543.)

and five years later was incorporated Doctor of Physic at Oxford. In 1544 he resigned his wardenship, and in the next year the treasurership of Bath and Wells Cathedral Church. Henry frequently consulted Chambre. With Dr. Owen he attended Queen Jane when she died soon after the birth of Henry's son, who became Edward VI. Chambre died in 1549.

Little is known about Dr. Walter Cromer. In 1530 he was admitted as a Fellow of the College of Physicians, and with Dr. Butts and Dr. Augustin was sent by Henry to attend Cardinal Wolsey at Esher. Caven-

dish, in his *Life of Wolsey*, terms Cromer "The Scot." Cromer probably received his court appointment after this commission.

The fourth doctor mentioned on the title page of the Royal Book of Formulas is Dr. Augustin de Augustinus, who was a Venetian by birth, and settled in England, and became physician to Wolsey, and was probably introduced by him to the King. He entered the Cardinal's service before 1523. In 1536 he became a Fellow of the College of Physicians. When Wolsey was ill in January, 1529, he asked for Butts to be sent to Esher, and for leeches, "hungry ones," to be procured for the patient. Augustin betrayed his patron and patient to the King, with the result that Wolsey was dismissed.

Butts, Chambre and Vicary were amongst the medical practitioners who were portrayed in Holbein's famous picture of Henry VIII granting the Charter of Incorporation to the Barbers-Surgeons' Company of London. Butts is mentioned by Shakespeare in his play *Henry VIII*.

Such were the four doctors, Butts, Chambre, Cromer and Augustinus, who compiled the Book of Plasters for Henry VIII. Perhaps to remind the King or his medical attendants concerning prescriptions which have provided definite relief on certain occasions, some of the formulas give in the headings the places where the plasters had been used—such as at Dover, Canterbury, Knolle, or at the Palaces at Greenwich, St. James or Westminster.

It will be noticed that some of the plasters are described as "devysed by the King's Highness," and it is more than likely that Henry VIII developed some of the basic prescriptions of his physicians.

When Henry was born, on June 28, 1491, he was his father's second son. Until the death of the heir apparent Henry was intended for the Church, and his father had plans to make him the Archbishop of Canterbury. Consequently, Henry was well educated, and in his ecclesiastical training would have received tuition covering medicines which then formed part of the education of any lad intended for Holy Orders.

"A blacke plaster devysed by the King's Hieghness."

"Take gummi armoniaci ʒ iv, oloi ompharmi ʒ iii, fyne therebintyne ʒ vi, gumi elemi ʒ j, resini pinis ʒ viij. Boyle together on a softe fyre of coale in a faire earthen basin, styrring alwayes untill it be plaster wyse (= like) and so make it in rolles and kepe it for your use."

"A plaster devysed by the King's Majestie at Grenewyche (= Greenwich Palace) and made at Westminster, to take away inflamcons (= inflammations) and cease payne and heale excoracons (= excoriations)."

"Take of plantyne leaves, violet leaves, honye suckle leaves, consolid (= daisy) maior (major) and minor, of eche a handful. Beate all these together and strayne them. Take the fatte of capons or hennes ʒ viij (8), boyle them with the juces untill the juces be consumed, then strayne it, and putte in these things folowyng, litherge of silver ʒ viij (8), redde corall ʒ ii (2), cornu cervi usti ʒ j (1), Cornu unicorni ʒ ii (2), margaritaris ʒ ss., prepareate and powdre all these fynely and putt them in your pottle and boyle them alltogether over a softe fyre still styrring it until yt (it) . . . then putt thereto these muscellages folowing, take of quinsede, of linsede ana ʒ i (1), draw the muscellage of them with rose water and white wyne wherein therebintyne (therebetween) has been lying four dayes infuse being oftymes moved ones (once) or ii (twice) in an houre and take of it ʒ ii (2) and put thereto the others and make a plaster."

The above formula utilises the material known as the "horn of the unicorn" which was so highly valued and esteemed as a remedial agent throughout the middle ages and until the end of the 16th century.

"A plaster devysed by the King's Majestie to heale ulcers without payne made with perle and the woode of ligni guaiaci."

Take the juce (juice) of night-shade, mallows, melilotte flowers, consolid (= daisy) maior (major), media and minor, sage and plantayne, of eche (each) two unces (ounces), of rose water and water of honey-suckle flowers of eche two unces, and then take a pynte (pint) of fyne oyle of roses, and take long wormes slytte and well washed in white wyne two unces, putt the wormes in the waters and add them to the oyle and boyle them together over a softe fyre, still styrring it untill you do perceave the juces and waters be consumed, then strayne them and putt to the oyle. Then add the folowyng fynely powdered and preparated. Take lytherge of golde (= oxide of lead) and ceruse of eche iiij (4) unces, of redde corall (red coral) and the typpes of hartes horns burned, one unce of eche, purely powdered, then take of perles, fynely powdered, half an unce. Boyle them all together on a softe fyre, evermore styrring tyll it be plaster wise (= like), and in the boyling put in lyttle by lyttle ii (2) unces of the decoction of ligni guaiaci boyled strongly in two partes of white wyne and one parte of rose water. And last of all in the coolyng, putt in the powder of chamomell (camomile) flowers and powder of redde damaske rose leaves of each half an unce, and make it up in rolles and kepe it to (= for) your use."

"Plaster that healeth devysed by the King's Majestie and made at Westminster."

"Take oyle of rosys washed in water of Gardyn lillies 3 x (10), the juce of prevett, consolid (= daisy) minor, heartes ease that groweth on the wall, latuce (= lettuce), of eche 3 ii (2). Boyle them in your oyle to the consumption of the juces, long wormes slytte and washed with white wyne, boyle also wyth the oyle 3 vi (6), then strayne your oyle into a faire vessell and putt thereto of lytherge of gold (= oxide of lead) washed with white wyne and water of Chamomell 3 ii (2), tutie, redde corall combusted and fynely powdered ana 3 ii (2). Boyle them to guether (gether) over a softe fyre, evermore styrring, putting thereto by a lyttle and a lyttle muscellaginis seminis psilii (= fleabane) 3 iss., the pulpe of dates, drawe the muscellage with the water of night shade and when it is almost plaster lyke putt thereto white wax 3 i (1). Boyle all toguether untill they be well bodied, then take them from the fyre styll styrring, and in the coolyng putt thereto farine avenarum 3 iss. et fiat emplastrum; augmente into the same receipte to the juces iii (3) unces (ounces) of the juce of the lyver worte (liverwort) and ii (2) unces of the muscellage of the mydle rynde (middle rind) of the elme tree drawn with the saide water with which the other foresaide muscellages be, et fiat emplastrum."

The following formula reveals, in its title, the way in which Dr. Butts attempted to improve upon a prescription devised by John of Vigo, who flourished between 1460 and 1519, and was surgeon and physician to Pope Julius II. His recipe survived him and continued in general use throughout Europe for three centuries as a melted plaster applied to syphilitic eruptions. A similar receipt is given by Ambroise Paré which includes earth-worms and frogs, macerated in white wine with "lytharge of gold" (oxide of lead) together with the fats of pig, calf and vipers.

"Black plaster of John de Vigo secundum Dr. Butts."

"Take oyle of rosys iiiij (4) unces (ounces), calfe suett one unce, the juce of plantayne, the juce of knotte grasse of eche (each) one unce, rose water half an unce, sett the oyle and the suett over a soft fyre and putt therto the juces and lett them boyle together tyll the lycors (liquors) be consumed, allwayes styrring it. Then take lytherge of golde (oxide of lead) and of silver of eche 3 vi (6), tutie preparates, minii (= red lead), of eache one dramme, ceruse v (5) drames, all these in fyne powdre, putt into the oyle, always

styrring it, and lett it boyle tyll yt loke (look) blacke, And when yt (it) is ynough (enough) sett it from the fyre and in the cooling putt thereto vi (6) drames of therebintyne (= terebinth, turpentine) washed with . . . water and one drame of white waxe and make upp in rolles. This plastre is goode for to heale and drye upp olde ulcers in the legges."

The book contains four formulas for spasmadraps or dipped plasters. Spasmadraps were melted plasters



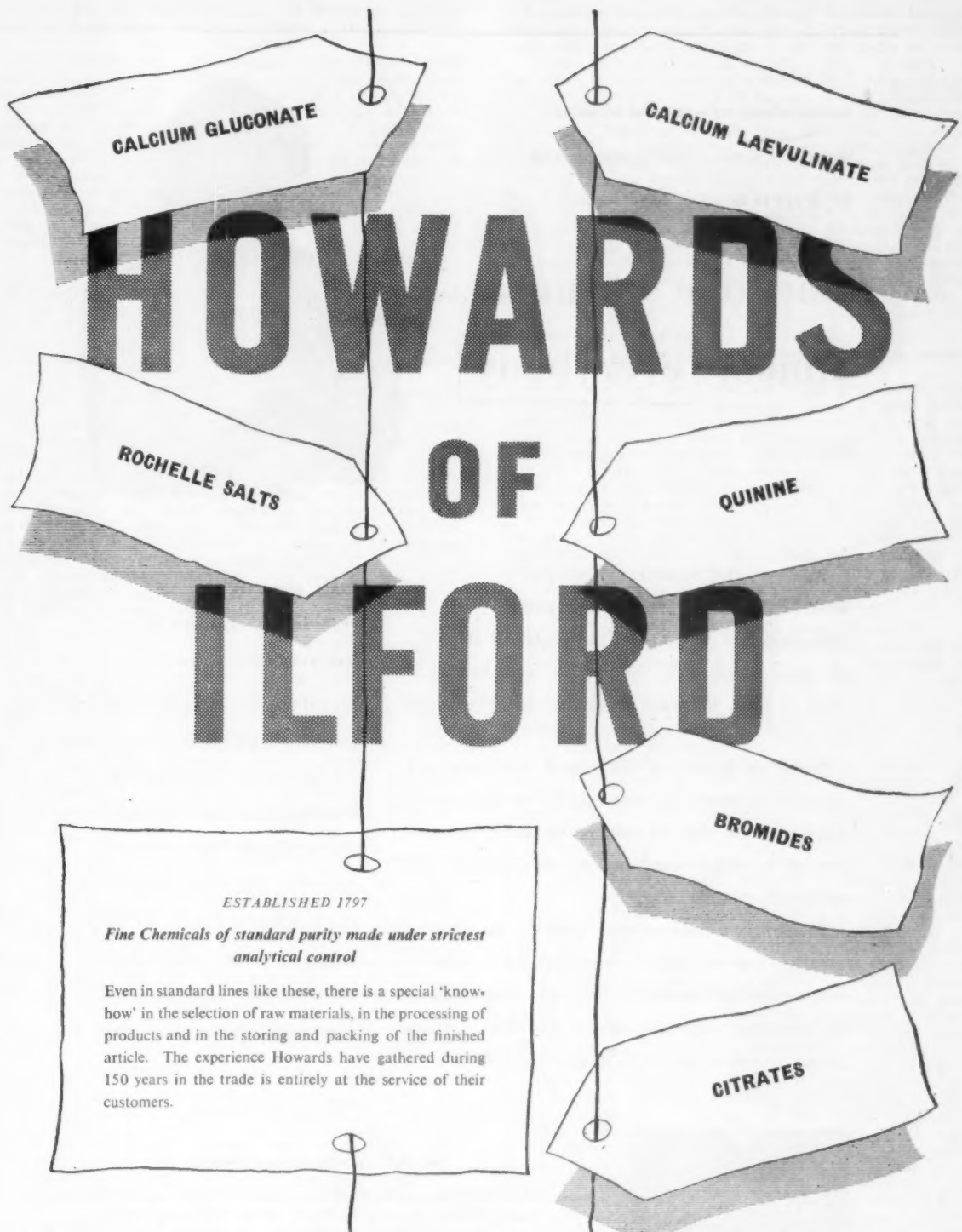
—Illustration by courtesy of the Melbourne Public Library.
King Henry VIII in a Wide Velvet Surco (1542).

into which strips of linen were dipped, and when cool these were smoothed out with a stone or a spatula before being applied. In some cases the plaster was melted and made liquid with olive oil, and then linen was then dipped into the mixture. White wax, almond oil and "therebintyne" (terebinth or turpentine) melted together and then spread upon coarse linen or parchment was a simple form of spasmadrap.

"A Spasmadrap or dypped plaster, devised by Dr. Butts."

"Take oyle of rosys and white waxe of eche (each) one pounce, white lead one pounce and a half, set the oyle and waxe over a softe fyre tyll the waxe be relented with the oyle and put in the white leade by a lyttle and a lyttle finely powdered, always stirring it tyll it waxe blacke and thicke lyke a plaster, then take it from the fyre and dyppe therein fyne peces of linnen clothe and hange them on a faire smothe staff tyll they be colde, and sleeke them on a cleke stone, and make them smothe on bothe sydes, and cutt them according to the broadeth of the ulcer, and peck them full of smalle hoolys (holes). One plastre will sve (= serve) v or vi (5 or 6) tymes (times) yf (if) yo(u) torn (turn) at everye dressing the contrarye syde. This is veray goode to heale ulcers in the legges."

Among the 50 ointments included in the book is the following formula which includes corn or horn of unicorn:—



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"Devysed by the King's Majestie at Cawoode to drye excoiacion and comforte the membres, called the Swete (Sweet) Ointment."

"Take oyle of rosys well washed with warme white wyne viii (8) unces (ounces), redde leade one unce, redde corale iii (3) unces, margarits 1 unce, cornu unicorn ii (2) unce. Boyle all your metalls and oyle together tyll it be unguentlyke, then put in these juices following of eche (each) one unce and a halfe, beside the fyre, evermore styrring tyll they be wrought all in, wood byne (woodbine), mallowes, plantayne, the tendre leaves of the apple (apple) tree, and solatro, and last of all the powdre of chamomell flowres, violet leaves, rose leaves and iris, of eche vi (6) unces et fiat unguentum."

The following ointment was devised at Fotheringay Castle:—

"The King's Majestie's ointmente to restrayne, devysed at fotheringaye and made at Hamphill."

"Take of oyle of rosys viii (8) unces, take the muscellages of quynsede and seminis pslii (= fleabane) of eche (each) of them one unce, then lytherge of golde (= oxide of lead) iiiii (4) unces, redde corall 3 vi (6). Boyle your oyle and your metalls and the muscellages together over a softe fyre evermore styrring tyll it be unguent like. Drawe the muscellages with white wyne, wherein the barke of the slooe tree hath been boyled a goode quantitie and last of all putt in fynely powdered (powdered) these things following, the flowres of pomegranate, rose leaves, the case of pomegranate seeds, sumach and redde sawnders (= saunders, or sandalwood), of eche (each) 3 ii (2), and worke them all to guether with a quantitie of white wyne to give penetracon (= penetration) et fiat unguent."

The following formula appears as one of the eight prescriptions for various poultices or cataplasms:—

"A pulthes to cease payne devysed by Dr. Butts."

"Take a fatte pece of veale or ellse a fatte capon and boyle it in water or ellse white wyne and strayne it from the fleshe, and sett the said lycor (liquor) over the fyre agayn, and put thereto these things following, of mallowes ii (2) unces (ounces), of violet leaves, of night shade ana 3 i (1), lett them boyle untill they be very softe and tendre, and powre (pour) awaye the lycor from them, and putt thereto barley water as much as shall suffice to make a pulthes (poultice)."

As many as 68 ingredients are included in some of the prescriptions for balms, and one of the simplest formulas of the five balms given in the book was the following:—

"A balme for palseyes and aches."

"Recipe: Therebintine clarissime (clear turpentine) 3 viii (8). Thuris, masticis, ana 3 ii (2). Take also aloes, sandaric, castor, offis dactilorum, radidis diptany, consolid (= daisy) minor ana 3 i (1). Stille (= distill) these together in a limbike of glasse and stoppe it veray (very) cesse and so kepe it to youre use."

Among the 12 liquid preparations devised by the King or his physicians appear the following formulas:—

"A Lotion to Drye Up All Waterishe Humors in the Legges."

"Take a dishfull of ashes of the wood of the oke (oak) alone, and as much of the ashes of the cuttyngs of vynes (vines). Then take two galons of faire (= fresh) water and a handfull of rosemarye and a handfull of sage, another of plantayne, see the these herbs in your water, then strayne them and make a lee of them and your ashes, and strayne yt through a canvas clothe three or iiiii (4) tymes, till your lee be stronge, and then warme it, and with sponges make fomentacons (fomentations) therewith evenynge and mornynge."

"A decoction devysed by the King's Majestie to restrayne humors."

"Take the leaves of centgrene, the leaves of nightshade, the leaves of roses, ana one lb., the flowers of pomegranates, of sumachs, hipocistidos, galles, ana 3 i (1), the barke of the barberrie, the barke of the slooe ana 3 ii (2). Set them in faire (fresh) water and white wyne, and make thereof a decoction."

"A plaster devysed by the King's Majestie to resolve and cease payne and to mollifie (,) being made without oyle with the fatte of capons and the marie of a calf."

"Take of cinquefoil, of violet leaves, of eche halfe an unce, of the flowers of water lillie 1 unce, of greater reysynes (raisins) without stones 3 ss. Boyle these together in rose water and the water of honeysuckle flowers as much as shall suffice, then take and strayne it and with the decoction drawe the muscellage of the rootes of marshe mallowes and of quinsede and of linsede of each i unce. Then take the suett of hennies 3 iiiii (4), the marie (= marrow) of the thiege (thigh) bone of a calf, cleane and clarified with rose water and the water of honyre suckle flowers more than luke warme. Then take lytherge of golde (= oxide of lead) fynely powdered and prepared before, then putt it to the suett and boyle them together over a softe fyre evermore styrring and feding it with the muscellage a lyttle and lyttle till it be plaster wyse (= like)."

"A plaster of the King's to heale and drye made at St. James."

"Take oyle of roys washed with plantayne water 3 vi (6) and lytherge of golde (= oxide of lead) washed wyth white wyne and water of chamomell, fynely powdered 3 iii (3), the juices of prevett (privet), consolid (= daisy) minor, hartease, latuce (= lettuce), of eche 3 ii (2). Boyle your juices with your oyle to the consumption, then strayne it and putt your lytherge to your oyle and boyle them guether (= together) over a softe fyre, stirring, putting therto (thereto) the muscellage of the pulpe of iiiii (4) dates . . . drawn with the wyne of nightshade, and when it be bodyed to a plaster take it from the fyre, and in the cooling putt thereto fynely powdered . . . boone combusted 3 ii (2) farine avernarum 3 iss et fiat emplastrum."

"The King's Majestie's Own Plaster."

"Take the rootes of marshe mallowes, washe and pike (= pick) them cleane; then slytte (= slit) them and take out the tinner pythe (= pith) and cast it awaye and take the other parte that is faire and white and cutt them in small peces and bruise them a little in a mortar and take of them halfe a pounce and put them in a new erthen (= earthen) panne. Then put thereto of linsede and fenegrec of eche (= each) two unces (= ounces), a little bruysed in a mortar, then take malvesie (= Malmsey wine) and white wyne of eche a pynte (= pint) and styrr all these together and lett them stand (to) infuse two or three days. Then sett them over a softe (= low) fyre and styrr it well till it waxe thicke and lyke a slyme (= slime), then take from the fyre and strayne it through a newe canvas. Then you have your muscellage redye to make the plaister with. Then take of fyne (= fine) oyle (= oil) of roses a quarte, and washe it well with rose water and white wyne, then take the oyle cleane awaye from the wyne and the water, and sett it over the fyre in a brasse panne, alwayes styrring it, and put thereto the powder of lytherge of golde (= oxide of lead), and of silver, of eche of them viii (8) unces, ceruse vi (6) unces, redde corall (= red coral) ij (2) unces, bole armeniac, sanguinis draconis of eche of them i (1) unce, and in any wyse lett them be fynely powdered and cersed (= crushed). Then putt them into the oyle over the fyre, alwayes styrring, and lett not the fyre be to(o) bigge for burnying of the stuff. And when it begynneth to waxe thicke then putt in vj (6) unces of the said muscellage by a little at onces (= once), or ellse it will boyle over the panne. When it has boyled ynough (= enough), which you shall perceave (= perceive) by the hardnesse or softenesse thereof when you droppe a lyttle of it on the bottome of a dyshe (= dish) or sawcer (= saucer), or on a cold stonne. Then take it from the fyre, and when it is newe (= newly) cold make it in rolles and wrappe them in parchement and kepe them for your use. This plaister resolves humoures where there is swellynge in the legges."

To Better Pharmacy

Address by Mr. E. G. Hall, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of N.S.W., at the Annual Meeting of Members of the Society on March 31.

My address to you this evening has not been prepared with any idea of being heroic, humorous or impractical, but is designed to provoke keen thought to resolve a problem and to crystallise ideas which have been exercising keen minds of chemists, interested in improving the status of a great profession, for quite a few years. I wish to make this clear—my ideas are designed with only one object in view, that is "Bettering Pharmacy." If in my remarks I proverbially "tread on the corns" of various people, I am sorry, but I think enough talk has gone around about this matter, but very little of a practical nature has been achieved because of both a negative and timid approach to the subject. Being still quite young and therefore still venturesome, I am about to propose a plan, supported by some very knowledgeable people in both N.S.W. and Victoria to implement properly and legally, which is the most important factor, a Code of Professional Conduct, and to set up a Disciplinary Tribunal.

Why do we need a "Code of Professional Conduct"? I want to make myself very clear at the outset. I do not think our profession is loaded with unscrupulous rascals, rampant with scoundrels who only traffic in drugs or rife with law-breakers as has been suggested by people at certain times in different editorials which have appeared, but I do say we need a code, to discipline that very small minority who do not play the game. We need such a Code to put our own house in order and to be factual and true to ourselves. We need a Code to educate the young chemist going into business in order that he will not fall into some of the pitfalls so easy to be led into and further we need a code as a matter of public safety and protection. I do not wish to labour the question of public safety but it is a very important one, and a good code can act as a buttress against the attack and inroads of certain practices which are tending to creep into our profession. While business is good and profits are good these acts are not apparent, but as soon as business tends to drop off, unscrupulous individuals turn to these practices to the detriment of the calling.

A great deal of time has been given by our own Society, those in the other States and by the P.A.A. at its conferences to this subject, but as far as I can ascertain their proposals have all depended on voluntary acceptance of the codes without any possible hope of legally implementing them. Can anything be achieved without statutory power? I have given this problem some two or more years' thought and I am convinced it cannot. We either have to do the thing properly or leave it alone altogether and not waste any more time on the subject. Voluntary acceptance is all very well while things go all right, but immediately one, and it needs only one, person gets out of step your Code of Professional Conduct is not worth the paper it is written on. Let us then establish one very definite principle, our Professional Code must be legally enforceable.

Who is best equipped to institute and administer such a code? In this State we have four possible ways:

1. The Government setting up a special department or committee.
2. The Pharmacy Board.
3. The State Branch Committee of the Guild; and
4. The Pharmaceutical Society.

Let us consider each in turn.

1. I would not like to see such control in the hands of a purely governmental committee as the personnel

need not necessarily be people with the required practical experience and we all know the shortcomings of State control. The classic example of such shortcomings has been the Poison Advisory Committee, set up to formulate the new Poisons Act in N.S.W. The chaos occasioned by this legislation is now history and I think I need say no more.

2. I do not consider the Pharmacy Board the ideal body to administer such a code, as it is to all intent a government department and is not free to do as it would always desire. Control of such a code must be free from any State domination and the body attending to this must be absolutely unfettered. To say the Board has been given power under the present farcical Act is ludicrous because, to quote the Act: "The Governor may direct the name of any person who has at any time before or after the commencement of this Act, been convicted of any offence which in the opinion of the Governor renders that person unfit to carry on the business of a pharmacist, to be removed from the register." Thus the Board can only commence their work after a person has been convicted of an offence. To suggest that the Act be amended to enable the Board to exercise more control would not be satisfactory because without some code a person must commit an actual offence to be charged. It is obvious to anyone with a clear mind that the power and influence of the Board has been so gradually and consistently reduced that it would appear that very soon the Board will be reduced entirely to a registering committee which function our Society could just as easily fulfil.

The power of this Board was weakened when it was found, following a court case, that a registered chemist did not have to be on the premises of a pharmacy all the time the shop was open.

This practically nullified the authority of its inspectors. Then the Final Examination became practically the work of the University, although the Board is represented. Next, the policing of the Poisons Act has passed to the Police Department, again weakening its influence, while with the implementation of the new training system in N.S.W., the Board will have no real control over the training of the pharmacy student. We do not want any inhibition placed on the committee by having it responsible to any governmental department. We do not want the committee tied in any shape or form so that we can be sure any decisions it makes will stand. In our Professional Code we do not wish to wait for a person to be convicted of an offence before any action can be taken against him, for there are cases in which a chemist should be reprimanded although a charge could not be preferred against him in a civil court. Policemen and chemists have told me of instances of unprofessional conduct in a pharmacy, e.g., drunkenness over which they were powerless. Again the Council has examples of such conduct before them which were no concern of the police and about which our Society could do no more than threaten to expel the member.

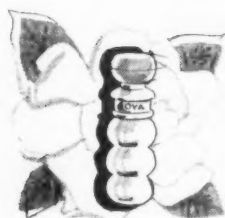
The State Branch Committee of the Guild, representing as it does only the Master Chemists would have no control over the other chemists (who are in the majority) and would thus be handicapped in controlling anyone who was not a master pharmaceutical chemist.

Having so far told you about all the bodies that could not or would not successfully implement my plan, allow me a few minutes to expound my theory as to a simple method of enforcing standards of professional conduct legally.

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My first contention is that the appropriate body to institute such a proposition is the Pharmaceutical Society. This body, as we all know only too well, is the body accepted in every quarter as the one whose heritage it is to attend to the ethical matters of pharmacy. The Constitution of the Society clearly defines its activity in this direction and therefore I assign the implementation of this proposal to our Society. The next move would be for the Society Council to formulate a code of professional conduct, setting out in general terms the basic principles for proper conduct. The code does not want to be a very long, unwieldy document, but I would suggest it be comparatively short and to the point. I would suggest the Council could pattern their code on the new code adopted by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. One essential clause in this code will be a generalised condition similar to that appearing in a number of Articles of Association or codes, e.g., our own Society rules and the Medical Practitioners Act, worded somewhat along these lines, "has been guilty of infamous conduct in any professional respect or who has acted in a manner prejudicial to good conduct." This is necessary so that persons brought before the tribunal could not escape punishment on technicalities.

Having established principles of proper professional conduct, those concerned by such a code must be governed by the said code and therefore in the small amendments to the Pharmacy Act necessary to bring the whole proposition about, must be inserted a clause that every person wishing to remain on the register of pharmaceutical chemists in N.S.W. must be a member of the Pharmaceutical Society of N.S.W. and to be such a member he must agree to subscribe to the determined code. This will not cause any undue hardship as practically every registered chemist in N.S.W. is already a member of the Society. We could not enforce this code unless there is an obligation to subscribe to it, whilst if there is no obligation, the code is not worth anything and would be useless.

I have now established: (a) the Society as the right and proper body to have charge of the policing of a code of professional conduct; (b) we have drawn up satisfactory standards and designs for such conduct and so now we have to devise the machinery to fulfil the object.

I want to make it very clear at this stage I am not a lawyer and so if I make any technical errors at law in my following recommendations, I ask to be forgiven because such errors could be quickly rectified by a barrister. I want it understood it is the principle rather than the detail I am out to establish. First, the Society would have to appoint a Committee of Preliminary Enquiry, consisting of three councillors and the Secretary of the Society, to whom the initial complaint or charge would be communicated. This is necessary so that the final Disciplinary Tribunal would not be weighed down with trivialities and also because such a tribunal is not placed in the position of being both prosecutor and judge. This point I have established following legal advice. The actual disciplinary tribunal would consist of four practising registered pharmacists, none of whom may be a member of the Preliminary Committee, and appointed with the approval of the Governor of N.S.W. and such a tribunal to be presided over by a stipendiary magistrate. The Medical Practitioners Act provides that their tribunal be presided over by a District Court Judge, but I am authoritatively informed that this often holds up the hearing owing to the Judge being engaged on other matters, while a stipendiary magistrate is much more accessible. The stipendiary magistrate could just as easily decide the points of law as a judge, and that is the reason for his having such a position as chairman. The connecting link between the two committees, which would carry out any required investigations, following a charge or complaint being made, would be the appropriate inspectors attached to the Board of Health who would communicate the results of their investigations

to the Committee of Preliminary Enquiry. The report having been considered, this committee would then recommend that action be taken by the Disciplinary Tribunal or a caution or exoneration of the chemist be issued. It will be seen, therefore, that at all times the necessary decisions are left to practising pharmacists, and not, as in the Medical Practitioners Act, the prosecutions can only follow recommendations from the Board of Health.

Let us therefore consider two or more hypothetical cases in order that you may more clearly follow my propositions.

Case No. 1.

A communication is received by the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society complaining about some purported breach of ethical conduct. This information would immediately be placed before the Committee of Preliminary Enquiry, who after considering the information presented to it, decides the matter, e.g., some difference of opinion between chemist and customer as to whether a Hospital Contribution book should be done on a Sunday night, is not of sufficient importance to pass on to the tribunal and therefore they may decide to take no further action.

Case No. 2.

A report is received by the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, a registered chemist has a sign outside his pharmacy advertising himself as a "Consulting Chemist."

Assuming this is a title which transgresses the Code of Professional Conduct and a member of the committee having inspected the premises and found it to be a fact, having reported back to the committee of his finding, the committee would meet and give this chemist seven days to remove such a sign, failing which the committee would recommend to the Tribunal that such a man be dealt with.

Case No. 3.

A complaint received that a registered chemist is guilty of some malpractice contravening the Code, e.g., selling controlled drugs, etc., without a doctor's prescription, or is allegedly a drug addict or something of the nature requiring evidence. The committee would meet and, if they consider there is sufficient evidence to institute inquiries, they would request the legally appointed inspector being empowered to collect evidence both from the complainant and the accused. This is a most important point, that this officer or officers have the power to collect such evidence and statements, and simply means that the committee functions under the control of the Royal Commissioners Act. Having collected such information, the report containing both sides of the question is conveyed to the Committee of Preliminary Enquiry, which, if the evidence is sufficient, would then communicate their findings to the Disciplinary Tribunal, which would deal with the case. I want to emphatically emphasise that a person who is called before the tribunal to show cause why, is entitled to be legally represented. This is to ensure that no "Star Chamber" methods may be adopted by the tribunal. A complaint laid against any chemist, I suggest, should be set out in a manner somewhat similar to Schedule D of the Medical Practitioners Act. I submit the person charged should be given seven days' notice of the hearing of the charge if it is presented to the tribunal and that the findings of such inquiry be reduced to writing and shall either be notified by the chairman to the person charged in open court or communicated to him by registered post. Following the delivering of such a judgment involving a conviction of the said chemist of some breach, the guilty chemist has the right to appeal to the Supreme Court of N.S.W.

Ladies and gentlemen, allow me to repeat, I am not a lawyer, but I am assured by competent advisors the principle I am trying to introduce is sound at law,

while the details would easily be prepared by competent draughtsmen.

To conclude, allow me to summarise my postulation.

1. I do not consider our profession is rampant with scoundrels and law-breakers, but certain practices do go on which it would profit the profession to eliminate, the power not being available to any body at present to accomplish.
2. The Pharmaceutical Society is the body to which the legal enforcement of professional conduct should be entrusted.
3. To enable such a code to be legally enforced following on No. 2, every chemist wishing to be registered in N.S.W. should be a member of the Society, even if this means our Society becoming the registering body.
4. Set up the two necessary committees to deal with breaches of the accepted Code of Professional Conduct.

I would hasten to assure you I have one and only one idea in my mind in proposing such suggestions and that is to improve our great profession and to hand to posterity something to be justly proud of by eliminating undesirable practices which are tending to creep into pharmacy.

I do hope my council in the coming year will be bold enough to attempt to introduce this proposal so that we will be in line with such other bodies as the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, the Medical Practitioners, the Dentists, etc. Let us hope we can take this forward step "To Better Pharmacy"

DIVERSE UNITY

The travels of Queen Elizabeth II in parts of the great British Commonwealth of Nations over which she reigns and does not rule has directed attention to the peculiarly diverse but at the same time united nature of that Commonwealth.

The point is that different parts of the Commonwealth have grown in different ways, and the policy has been free growth rather than uniformity. Compare the situation with that of the most primitive form of life the protozoa, with mankind. The protozoa is uniform and simple; mankind exists in infinite variety, mentally, morally and physically.

As a consequence, we in Australia are a federation of six States, each of which retains sovereign powers, while in Canada there is what is called a quasi-federation, in which the central power can invade the rights of the provincial governments. In the Union of South Africa the subordinate legislatures exist only by the consent of the Union Parliament, which can abolish them simply by passing an Act. New Zealand and Ceylon are known as unitary kingdoms, but while the former is predominantly British in thought and character, the latter has an age-old Asian culture on to which British political institutions have been grafted.

The new "realm," the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, sometimes called the Central African Federation, presents yet another variety of statehood. While Southern Rhodesia is a self-governing and independent part of the Commonwealth, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland are still supervised by the Colonial Office in Whitehall, London.

And then there is the new "realm" that may eventually be born in the colonies in the Caribbean Sea. This will be a federation, the component parts of which are separated by hundreds of miles of sea.

The variety goes on and on, but Her Majesty the Queen is the symbol that unites them all.

—Issued by Neville Smith on behalf of the Standing Committees in support of the Call to the People of Australia, 162 Exhibition Street, Melbourne, C.I.

CHLORDANE VAPOUR TOXICITY

A study was conducted by Ingle and reported in Science (118: 213 (1953)) on the toxicity of the insecticide chlordane (1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 8-octachloro-4,7-methano-3a, 4, 7, 7a-tetrahydroindane) on warm blooded animals. The animals used were Swiss albino mice. They were subjected to the vapour of chlordane for 14 days and then sacrificed. No deaths occurred, nor were there any toxic manifestations, including the organs and tissues, at autopsy. After adding an intermediate in the chlordane preparation reaction, hexachlorocyclopentadiene, toxic manifestations were pronounced. The author concluded that previous reports of toxicity to chlordane were due to the presence of this intermediate in the earlier commercial supplies of chlordane. Present supplies have largely been freed of this and other intermediates—"The American Professional Pharmacist," January, 1954.

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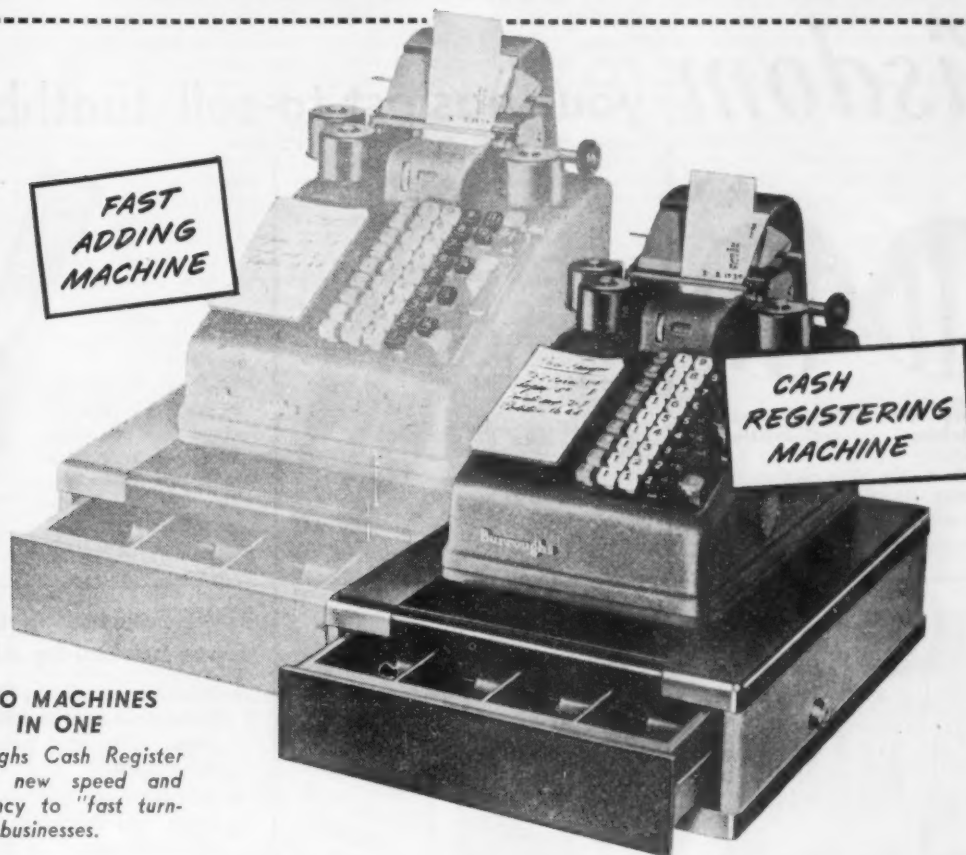
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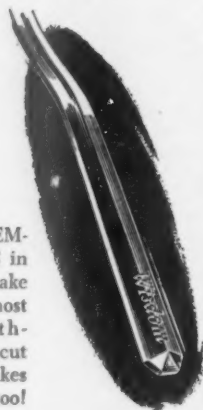
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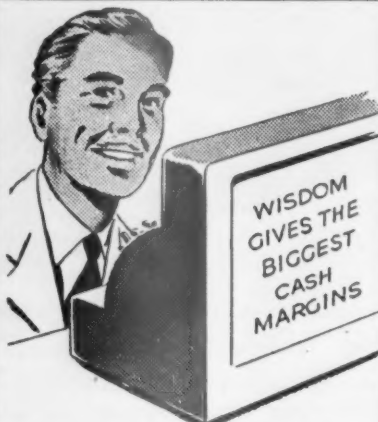
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by Addis
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LIQUORICE THROUGH THE AGES

By Frank A. King.

One of man's earliest medical records, the *Shen nung Pen Ts'ao King*, refers to liquorice root as a magical plant that imparts youthful vigour to the bodies of ageing men.

Early in their civilisation the Egyptians discovered the virtues of Nature's only "sweet root." The root was mixed with water to produce a drink known as "mai sus," which is still a popular beverage of the Egyptians. In 1923 Lord Carnarvon found a generous supply of the root in the tomb of King Tut-an-kh-amen, and the hieroglyphs show that the root was held in high esteem by the Pharaohs.

Working with primitive tools, slaves dug up the runners of this perennial weed growing profusely by the river banks, especially in flood districts, and they deposited the roots before their masters. Some of the tangled stems were more than 25 ft. long, but even when they pulled the runners out of the ground at harvest time some tendrils of the liquorice plant remained to continue the propagation of the plant.

About 120 mineral substances and over 250 drugs of vegetable origin, including liquorice root, are mentioned on about 800 fragments of the clay tablets which once comprised the great library of the palace of Assur-banipal, King of Assyria, who ruled Nineveh from 626 B.C. to 608 B.C., and as these are copies of much earlier records, it is probable that liquorice was used as early as 2000 B.C. or even 3000 B.C. in that part of the world.

The maceration of herbs in a liquid medium such as wine or vinegar was the usual method adopted by the Babylonians, in much the same way that modern medicated wines are prepared to fulfil the requirements of the pharmacopoeias. In his *Babylonian Medical Texts* R. Campbell Thomson gives the following translation of one formula:—

"Place liquorice root, tarmush plant (probably bean), shilin (= daniel), shi-man, tu-me and tongue plants in wine, and allow it to stand for a certain period, and then decant the liquid for use."

It is interesting to compare this prescription with the following instructions which appeared in a "Herbal" published about 100 years ago:—

"Take a large teaspoonful of linseed, one ounce of liquorice root, and a quarter of a pound of best raisins. Put them into two quarts of soft water, and simmer down to one quart. Then add to it a quarter of a pound of brown sugar candy and a tablespoonful of white wine vinegar or lemon juice. Drink half a pint when going to bed, and take a little whenever the cough is troublesome. N.B.: It is best to add the vinegar to that quantity which is required for immediate use."

Even in the early times of the Egyptians the use of liquorice as a medicine and tonic had become of great importance, not only in sickness and in health, but had also attained acceptance as part of the religious rituals of the East.

Nearly six centuries before the birth of Christ an infusion of liquorice was prepared in China on the dawn of Buddha's anniversary. The sacred liquid was poured over a statue of the god three times in succession, whilst the worshippers prayed and the priests chanted mystical incantations. Then the fluid was collected in special vessels as it dripped from the idol, and was later distributed to be used for medicinal purposes.

In India, the prophet Brahma had recommended liquorice to his followers, not only as a general tonic and as an elixir of life, but also as a beautifying agent!

In Greece, the physician Theophrastis, a friend of Aristotle, the philosopher, in his treatise entitled "In-

quiry into Plants," compiled during the third century before Christ, said about the root:

"Scythian root (= liquorice) is also sweet; some, in fact, call it 'sweet root.' It is useful against asthma or dry cough and in general troubles of the chest, and is also administered in honey for wounds. It has the property of quenching the thirst, if one holds it in the mouth; wherefore they say that the Scythians, with this and mare's milk-cheese, can go for 11 or 12 days without drinking."

Other records of this period show that Alexander the Great, who had been educated by Aristotle, included liquorice root amongst the "iron rations" of his servicemen.

The Romans, as they swept on their conquests through Africa, Spain, Gaul (or France) and Britain, took liquorice with them amongst their essential supplies.

During the Middle Ages, the liquorice plants, with their pinnated leaves and small blue, violet or white flowers, disposed in heads or spikes, were to be seen in the herbal gardens cultivated at religious houses such as convents and monasteries. The monks, who acted as physicians for many centuries, used liquorice in many of their medicinal preparations.

When the Crusaders went to the Holy Land they found the Arabs had separated the craft of the apothecary from the art of the physician. The Arabs had introduced drugs of a milder action than those drastic remedies used by other races, and the apothecaries dispensed liquorice and other herbal roots for the physicians.

In the 13th century, the chronicler John of Garlande refers to "appotecarii" who sold confections, spices, sugar, wax and liquorice. A quaint couplet of the same century indicates that liquorice was closely associated with sweetness. It states:

"His love al so swete, y'wis
So ver as milk or licorice."

Perhaps the earliest reference in English literature to liquorice as a form of sweetmeat was made by Geoffrey Chaucer during the 14th century, when he wrote:

"But first he cheweth greyn (= grain) and licorys
To smellen sweete."

During the reign of the first Queen Elizabeth of England liquorice was grown in England mainly, as at present, in the neighbourhood of Pontefract Castle, in Yorkshire, but in the middle of the last century it was also grown in Mitcham, in Surrey.

During the 17th century a medicinal conserve of one drug only would be incorporated with sugar or honey, and often liquorice was used in such preparations. For the purpose of relieving a cough, an eclegma was a thick syrup given in conjunction with a stick of liquorice for the patient to suck.

Only the root of the plant is of any commercial value. The root reaches the market as long, branchlike, wrinkled pieces, 3 ft. to 4 ft. long, brown externally and yellow internally, and it has a sweet mucilaginous taste. The extract, known as liquorice juice, is made by boiling the crushed roots and evaporating the liquid to a proper consistency. The juice is then mixed with starch and rolled into thick sticks or slabs.

Nowadays, liquorice root is sold by wholesale druggists in wired bundles of about 2½ lb. and 7 lb., and also in a peeled form and as powder. The juice is distributed in 10-lb. slabs or in sticks.

During the 18th century, liquorice was used in the preparation of the famous—almost notorious—"Dover's Powders," invented by an adventurous sea captain named Thomas Dover, who was born in 1660. He had

a remarkably romantic career as adventurer-cum-buccaneer, and is said to have rescued Alexander Selkirk from the island of Juan Fernandez in 1709, thus providing Daniel Defoe with his celebrated character Robinson Crusoe.

Dover retired from seafaring in 1728, and started to practise as a doctor in London. He published a medical treatise, and in a chapter dealing with "Gout" he included a formula of a "diaphoretic powder" containing opium, potassium nitrate, vitriolated tartar, liquorice and ipecacuanha, which he said he had found to be very efficacious in the relief of that complaint.

The powder, which became known by his name, was used extensively in the treatment of fevers, and eventually proved to be of such great importance that it was recognised officially by being included in the London Pharmacopoeia under the title of "Compound Powder of Ipecacuanha," and, although various modifications have been made since in the prescription, it is still an important official and valuable preparation.

In the United States of America, most of the liquorice grown or imported is used to flavour or cure tobacco, but from the waste fibre all sorts of products are now being made, including an ingredient for a fire-extinguishing foam, and an insulating board which is very effective against the penetration of noise, heat and cold.

Yet no plant has been more reluctant to reveal the secret of its chemical components, and no chemist has yet made a complete analysis or produced a synthetic product even remotely resembling liquorice.

Writing on the history, cultivation and chemistry of the liquorice plant, Dr. P. A. Houseman stated that glycyrrhizin, the sweetening agent of the root, has nearly 50 times the saccharinity of cane sugar, and that "its sweetness, which is still detectable at a dilution of one part in 20,000 parts of water, is also much more persistent." Only liquorice contains glycyrrhizin in commercial quantities.

The soothing properties of liquorice as a constituent of cough syrups, lozenges and pastilles make it of great importance medicinally. It disguises the taste of bitter preparations such as aloes, cascara and Epsom salts, so as a flavouring agent it helps to overcome not only the child's dislike of acrid medicines, but also the adult's reactions! Liquorice is also used by some brewers in the production of "Porter."

New progress is always being made in research concerning the medicinal properties of liquorice, and during the past few years many beneficial results have been reported where liquorice derivatives have been used in the treatment of Addison's Disease, so the mystic magical root of the East may prove of great importance to those who suffer through that strange complaint.

VACCINATE AGAINST BLACKLEG IN CALVES

Blackleg is killing hundreds of calves in South Gippsland. There is a danger of it causing serious losses throughout Victoria's volcanic and river flat country. Unless vaccination is carried out promptly many more cattle will die between now and the winter.

Officers of the Victorian Department of Agriculture report that the disease has appeared unusually early this season. Young calves of about six months to one year old are mostly affected.

Symptoms are hard to detect and affected animals are usually found dead before their owners realise blackleg has attacked them. However, close examination reveals a portion of the skin, often on a hind

leg, to be stiff and raised slightly by gas formed by the germ. This raised portion crackles when touched.

Fortunately, there is a simple answer to this serious disease. Obtain supplies of vaccine, vaccinate and feel secure. Vaccine is available from local chemists or the Commonwealth Serum Laboratory, Parkville. Owners having any difficulty in obtaining vaccine should consult their local veterinary officer or stock inspector.

It is advisable to burn all carcasses of cattle that have died from this disease.

The organism will live in the ground for years and failure to properly destroy the dead animals will increase the chances of future contamination. However, be careful to observe local fire restrictions. Prevention is the only successful method of attacking blackleg.

Get your vaccine and vaccinate now.

Vaccinate Sheep Against Black Disease.

Sheep-owners are urged to vaccinate their sheep with black disease vaccine now if they have not already taken measures to control the trouble in their flocks.

Deaths from this disease usually occur at this time of the year.

Black disease occurs in most Victorian irrigation and high rainfall areas. It is an acute infectious disease, causing sudden deaths in sheep of all sexes and ages from weaners onwards and it is caused by a very small germ which lives normally in the liver. However, it can only multiply and cause black disease when the liver tissue is damaged by liver fluke. The disease is seasonal, and occurs in late summer-autumn when the young fluke are most active.

Sheep are usually in good condition and die suddenly without symptoms. They are often found dead in the overnight camp. Death occurs quietly, the animal lying down and dying without struggling.

Post-mortem reveals that the skin rapidly becomes black and the wool pulls out easily. Some blood-stained fluid is in the body cavity and the liver is dark and full of blood. One or more light patches are seen in the liver. If cut, these will be seen to extend some distance into the liver tissue. The sac containing the heart is always distended with blood-stained fluid, which sets like a jelly.

Black disease can be effectively controlled by vaccinating the sheep and eradicating fluke from the property.

To be most successful, vaccination should have been done in November to give the sheep time to build up immunity before the young fluke become active in February. Give a single 2 c.c. dose of vaccine under the skin. Vaccine can be obtained from the local veterinary surgeon, chemist, or the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories, Parkville.

Eradication of fluke entails killing the fluke snail on the swampy ground, backwaters, and creeks by broadcasting bluestone (15 lb. per acre) in July and December, and by drenching the sheep with carbon tetrachloride. Drenching is best done about the middle of June, but in very fluky areas three drenches should be given, one at the end of April, the next in mid-June, and the last at the end of July. Drain all swampy areas. Burn all carcasses or bury them deeply to prevent contamination of the ground and spread of the disease.

Here is a programme to control black disease: End of April, drench; mid-June, drench; end of June, bluestone pastures; end of July, drench; November, vaccinate sheep; end of December, bluestone pastures.

—From "News Bulletin," No. 499, of the Department of Agriculture, Victoria.

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The Women's Section

Correspondent: Miss A. K. Anderson

Our thanks to "The Gilseal News" of March, 1954, for the par. "The Feminine Invasion." Its conclusion—"Truly the women have arrived in force and are a power to be reckoned with—and just as truly they have shown that they can 'deliver the goods'."

With reference to the suggested insignia for women pharmaceutical chemists, it may be interesting to other States to hear that at the National Council of Women's Review in Melbourne, when the Victorian women pharmacists ran a "Headache Bar," all the members on duty wore a red R on the lapel of their white coats. This was made of plastic, about 1½ inches high, and caused quite a lot of interest among the laymen, and congratulations from the few medical people present.

WOMEN PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA.

Our meeting this month was held on April 8 at the College, when the Vice-President, Miss Smalley, welcomed members, in the absence of the President, Miss Caird, who was just out of hospital.

After notices of motion for the annual meeting had been read, Miss Smalley welcomed our guest speaker, Mrs. Harkins, who has been a member of our Association for a number of years, and has just returned from a most interesting trip abroad. Mrs. Harkins told us of her travels from Sydney, via Jakarta, Indonesia, to Singapore, from there to Ceylon, the Suez Canal to Marseilles, where she left the ship to travel along the Riviera to Venice—by train from Genoa to London, and, after the Coronation, England, Scotland, Ireland, Norway and Sweden, and the Continent, returning home via South Africa. We were only sorry that time prevented us from hearing more of Mrs. Harkins' adventures.

Mrs. Nye, who had shown films of parts of England for Mrs. Harkins, during her talk, proposed a vote of thanks to our guest speaker, and the evening concluded with supper in the Museum.

Our annual meeting will be held at the College on Thursday, May 6, at 8 p.m.

THE ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS OF N.S.W.

Gay plans were mentioned at the meeting held on April 14 at Science House for the theatre party to be held on April 30, at the Tivoli Theatre, to see "Zip Goes a Million."

The next big event for Sydney women pharmacists is the Ball to be held on June 4 at the Union Refectory, and we are all looking forward to a happy night. Those requiring tickets, please ring Mrs. Shirley Campbell, FW 1791.

After business had been completed, Mr. Smith, President of the New South Wales Branch of the Guild, who has recently returned from a visit abroad, gave a very interesting talk of his experiences overseas and his impressions of pharmacies in England and on the Continent, which was of particular interest to those who are thinking of going abroad in the near future.

At the conclusion of the meeting, supper was served after a unanimous vote of thanks to Mr. Smith.

THE ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS OF QUEENSLAND.

Under our revised constitution, the annual general meeting of the Association was held on March 18 at the Lyceum Club Room, Queen Street.

We were happy to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Martin, new members, and visitors. Eight honorary members for

1954 were also welcomed and presented with constitutions. These eight new members were the successful Final students for 1953.

Mr. Martin presented prizes to Miss Rae McLeod, Final Year, and Miss Elizabeth Martensen, Intermediate Bursary.

The committee of management election results were announced by the Returning Officer, Miss Brighthouse.

Presentations were made to the retiring executive officers by Miss Everett on behalf of the committee and members.

A vote of thanks to the retiring committee was proposed by Mrs. Roush.

Miss Chalmers thanked Mrs. Carlson for her presentation to the Association of a gavel and stand.

At the committee meeting held at the conclusion of the annual meeting, the following executive officers were elected:

President: Mrs. F. Roush.

Vice-President: Miss B. Rowland.

Hon. Secretary: Miss M. Blanchard.

Hon. Asst. Secretary: Miss B. Jebb.

Hon. Treasurer: Miss R. Whitehead.

Social Hostess: Miss E. Everett.

Members of Committee: Miss E. Chalmers, Mrs. Carlson and Mrs. Grant Taylor.

To the new executive officers we offer best wishes for a happy and successful term.

The next meeting is to be held on April 22 at the Society rooms, Brisbane.

THE WOMEN PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The first meeting of the 1954 committee was held on April 6 at the home of Mrs. K. V. Read. The President, Mrs. Maloney, welcomed two new members—Mrs. C. E. Wilkins, Assistant Secretary, and Miss Kaye Lynos. We were sorry to receive the resignation of the student observer, Lorraine Gotts. Lorraine served on the 1953 committee and was most helpful and co-operative.

Our next meeting will be held on May 4, at 7.45 p.m., in the Y.W.C.A. Board Room. The speaker will be Mr. John Miles, a journalist who was on the Royal Tour of Australia.

ADVANCE IN DENTISTRY

Never in the history of dentistry has there been such close liaison and co-operation between the medical and dental professions, and never until very recent years has the medical profession appeared to realise the value and importance of a close co-operation between the professions in the preservation of the general health of the community.

This eminently desirable state of co-operation between the two professions has been brought about by several factors, among which are the improvement in the course of Dental Science, particularly as regards the teaching of such subjects as medicine, surgery, pathology and bacteriology; and the recognition by the general hospitals of the value of the work carried out by the honorary dental staffs of these hospitals.

The medical profession has been brought to realise that graduates in Dental Science can no longer be regarded merely as skilled technicians, but as conferees having a sufficient knowledge of the basic sciences and of medicine and surgery to be consulted on a professional level.

—From an Editorial in "The Australian Journal of Dentistry," April, 1954.

Legal

PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS ACT

Charges Against Queensland Doctor.

Dr. George Boyd appeared before the Summons Court, Brisbane, on April 7 on charges alleging breaches of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act.

It was alleged that Dr. Boyd, of Mount Gravatt, on August 13 and 20 had obtained 200 tablets of sulphadiazine to which he was not entitled.

The hearing was adjourned until April 29, and Dr. Boyd was ordered to pay £9/8/- for witnesses' expenses as costs of the adjournment which he had sought.

MANUFACTURE OF CHLORAMPHENICOL UNDER LICENCE

Action in House of Lords.

An action over the right of the British Drug Houses Ltd., London, to apply for a compulsory licence to enable them to manufacture and sell chloramphenicol, an antibiotic patented by Parke, Davis & Co., Inc., and manufactured by their English subsidiary at Hounslow under the registered trade mark Chloromycetin is reported in "The Chemist and Druggist," February 19, 1954.

The action came before the House of Lords on February 8 when Parke, Davis & Co. appealed from a judgment of the Court of Appeal affirming an order of the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, refusing their motion for an order prohibiting the Comptroller-General of Patents from considering an application by B.D.H. under section 41 of the Patents Act 1949.

It was contended for Parke, Davis & Co. that there was no dispute that the patents forming the subject of the application came under the special provisions of the Patents Act for dealing with food or medicine, or that they were less than three years old. The question was whether the Comptroller of Patents had any jurisdiction to grant the compulsory licence sought by B.D.H., or as he contended, should be prohibited from proceeding with the application on the ground that it was made before the expiry of three years from the date of issue of the patents. The following provisions from the Patents Act were quoted:—

41 (1) "... where a patent is in force in respect of ... a substance capable of being used as food or medicine or in the production of food or medicine ... the Comptroller shall, on application made to him by any person interested, order the grant to the applicant of a licence under the patent on such terms as he thinks fit, unless it appears to him that there are good reasons for refusing the application."

45 (3) "No Order shall be made in pursuance of any application under Sections 37-42 of this Act which would be at variance with any treaty, convention, arrangement or engagement applying to the United Kingdom and any convention country."

The words "convention country," said Mr. Pritt, included the United States. Then Paragraph 4 of Article 5a of the International Convention stated:

"In any case, an application for the grant of a compulsory licence may not be made before the date of expiration of three years from the date of issue of the patent, and this licence may only be granted if the patentee is unable to justify himself by legitimate reasons. . . ."

Paragraph 4, said Mr. Pritt, should not be construed

merely in the light of the law of England, and it would be wrong to say that, merely because it did not mention medicine, it did not apply to medicine. He contended that what Paragraph 4 meant was that in any case where, in any country, an application for a compulsory licence, on any grounds, was being considered, the country concerned agreed to impose the three-year prohibition. It had been held in the courts below that the opening words "In any case," which were a translation from the French, meant only "In any case where an application for a compulsory licence was based on some form of abuse," and had nothing to do with Section 41. He claimed that the words did not allow of such a construction, and that "abuse" was too imprecise a term to provide a good foundation for an argument on construction. Section 41 was just as concerned with abuse as Section 37.

Judgment was reserved.

Our London correspondent, in an airmail despatch, has informed us that the House of Lords, from whose decision there is no appeal, has ruled that the manufacture under licence of a patent medicine is not subject to the three years' delay laid down for the granting of licences by the International Convention. This decision arose from an application by the British Drug Houses Ltd. (see Overseas News—Great Britain—for March) for the issue of a compulsory licence to manufacture chloramphenicol. The drug was patented by Parke, Davis & Co., and is now manufactured in Great Britain under the proprietary name Chloromycetin.

W.A. POISONS ACT

Self-Service Storekeeper Fined.

Fines amounting to £10 were imposed on John Swindle Holbrook, of Swanbourne, in the Perth (W.A.) Police Court on April 1 for illegally selling poisons.

Two of the charges related to the sale of poisons without a licence and two for failure to label containers of poisons as required by the Poisons Regulations. A fifth charge dealt with the leaving of containers of poisons within easy access of the public.

Mr. F. W. Avenell, Registrar, W.A. Pharmaceutical Council, prosecuted. He said that on March 9, 1954, Holbrook had sold two unlabelled tins of a poisonous mixture for killing ants. He did not hold a licence for the sale of poisons and the tins were easily accessible on a shelf in his self-service store.

Student Activities

N.U.P.S.A.

(The National Union of Pharmacy Students of Australia)

Well, at last the minutes of congress are out, and available to all members. Our thanks and congratulations to Miss Margaret Purdon, of Tasmania, who was minutes secretary of the last congress. She has done a really good job in having that large volume of work done so quickly.

This month I have two appeals to make. The first is for more songs for the Pharmacy Student Song Book. So far the response has been rather poor, and only two States are represented. If YOU know any songs suitable for this work please forward them to me or your yearly representative as soon as possible.

The other appeal is for more correspondence from Interstate. Other organisations want to know what you are doing in the social and academic fields. Please

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For the ready preparation of solutions of the required strength.

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write and let me know so that I may let all of Australia know.

For some students a crucial time is approaching. Yes, those fateful examinations are looming up again. I take this chance, on behalf of the N.U.P.S.A. Committee, to wish everybody the best of luck in their coming tribulations.

VICTORIAN PHARMACY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Our general meeting was held on March 31, when a good attendance of students elected the new V.P.S.A. Representative Committee. Names and offices are:—

President: Kevin Davison (4th year).
Vice-President: Alistair Lloyd (3rd year).
Hon. Secretary: Jo Jennings (3rd year).
Hon. Treasurer: Clive Morris (4th year).
Local N.U.P.S.A. Publicity Officer: Dorothy Christian (3rd year).
Chairman of Clubs and Societies: John Filgate (2nd year).
N.U.P.S.A. Publications Officer: Margaret Blakeley (3rd year).
Local Publicity Officer: Terry Hawksley (3rd year).
Social Secretary: Janette Gourlay (1st year).
Editor of "The Scruple": John Coppock (4th year).
N.U.P.S.A. Representative: Lex McArthur (3rd year).
Committee: Anne Fagan (2nd year), Priscilla Morgan-Paylor (4th year), Jim Hawksley (1st year), Ernest Targett (3rd year), Bert Davis (3rd year).

The general meeting was followed by the Freshers' Night. A large number of "freshers" met many other

with a bouquet of flowers, and Mr. Callister with a leather compendium, on behalf of the students. This was in appreciation of the work and help Mr. Callister did as pharmaceutical lecturer to third and fourth-year students before his resignation last year.

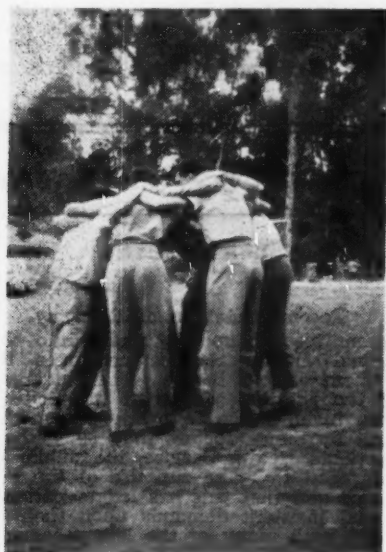


The Third Year Gang at Maroondah.

Fresher Activities, 1954.

Fresher activities at the College commenced on Sunday, April 14, with a picnic to Maroondah Dam. The van left the College at 9.30 and arrived at the dam at about half-past eleven. The forty present immediately left for a tour of the dam, and were all suitably impressed by the beauty of the surrounding countryside and picturesque gardens. After lunch a grand cricket match took place between two mixed sides, and after an hour of high scoring the match was declared a draw.

A few members now retired to indulge in a less vigorous but more invigorating sport, and very soon



In a huddle before the big match.

students while dancing to the excellent music of Graeme Bell. Although the evening was rather warm, the large crowd seemed to enjoy themselves. Supper was served and the dancing concluded at 11.40 p.m.

About fifty 3rd-year students spent Sunday, April 4, at Maroondah Lake, where they thoroughly enjoyed themselves hiking and playing cricket.

The Commencement Ball was held at the Dorchester on April 8. This was very well attended by students, and proved to be a most enjoyable evening. During the ball the President of V.P.S.A. (Kevin Davison) and the Secretary (Jo Jennings) presented Mrs. Callister



Lunchtime at Maroondah.

the rest set out to rescue them, but this party ended up miles along the road to Healesville. The barbecue tea was followed by a square dance in the dark to the inspiring calling of a few musical(?) students, and the day ended with the rousing strains of community singing echoing from the van on the road to Melbourne.

In response to the requests of some of the students a discussion group night was held at Judy Manning's home in Brighton on April 22. Due to the inaccessibility of Brighton to most of the students, the attendance was reduced to about twenty, but with Lex McArthur taking charge and drawing from his wealth of knowledge and notes, the discussion was soon under way and those keen enough to attend all agree that forensically speaking they are now much better off.

After we ran out of notes and questions, records were produced and dancing, interrupted only by the lavish supper from Mrs. Manning and various absent mothers, was the order of the night before we reluctantly had to leave to catch the last train home.

The select group who attended this discussion have benefited greatly by it, and its success was proved by the number of offers for the use of homes in the future. We must take this opportunity of publicly expressing our thanks to the Mannings for allowing us the use of their home and for treating us so well. This article would be incomplete without a word of thanks appearing to Lex McArthur for forsaking his studies to come and help us along.

The two events summarised here leave no doubt in the minds of those who attended them that the course can be made a lot happier if all the students know each other, and the only way for this to come about is for as many as possible to attend the various social functions arranged for them by their representatives throughout the year.—Jim Hawksley.

TASMANIAN PHARMACY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Association was held in the Girl Guides rooms on March 24. Quite a good roll-up resulted, with the exception of those still in National Service, who will be discharged soon to swell the ranks of the 12 Field Ambulance. The following office-bearers were elected for the year 1954:

President: Mr. McIntosh.
Vice-President: Mr. Shirrefs.
Treasurer: Miss A. Wilks.
Secretary: Miss M. Purdon.
First Year Representative: Miss Henry.
Second Year Representative: Miss M. Harriss.

A social committee was also elected, and Mr. McDougall was elected Editor of the newspaper, "The Sedative." Miss Margaret Harriss gave the meeting a brief picture of Congress, 1954, but we have our doubts if she told us everything that went on! An informal discussion followed on the holding of congress in Tasmania in 1956, and the difficulties arising from the relatively small numbers of pharmacy students in the State.

A meeting of the executive was held at Drake's Pharmacy on March 31, and a bright year has been planned for the association by the committee. It was decided that the monthly meetings would again be held informally in the homes of different students.

The Technical College has been open for some weeks now, and University opened on March 29. We only hope that none of the pharmacy students was involved in incidents in orientation week. At this point it is doubtful if the Students' Association could afford to bail out anyone of Her Majesty's "Boarding House."

We regret that Dr. Burgin was temporarily incapacitated with a sprained ankle, but are pleased to say that he has returned to his former very active self.

ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY PHARMACEUTICAL STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

The year began for A.U.P.S.A. with a tea, which was given on April 5, to welcome freshers. This has now become an annual affair, and once again the committee did a very good job in helping to make the new students feel at home. The tea was held buffet style,

with several hot dishes, and most attractive-looking dishes of salad, as well as the usual fare. After tea, David Saies entertained committee and freshers alike by playing the piano—perhaps as a farewell tribute, as he is now a fully-fledged pharmacist. Those people present who went to Congress in January started on some of the songs that they learnt up there, and before long everyone was joining in with great gusto.

The annual general meeting followed the tea, and this year the business of the meeting was restricted to reports and elections. Most reports showed that 1953 had been a great success for A.U.P.S.A., especially from the financial aspect, and great things are hoped for 1954.

The following executive was elected:

President: Bob Maloney.
Vice-President: Dick Clainpell.
Secretary: Sue Martin.
Treasurer: Phil Grunnet.
Social Secretary: Elaine Gibson.

The retiring President, Neil Bannister, thanked the 1953 Committee for their support, and wished the new one every success, especially in view of the fact that it is on their shoulders that the responsibilities of Congress, 1955, will fall.

Following the business of the meeting, we welcomed Mr. White from Kodak, who gave us a "slide lecture" entitled "Photography and You." This consisted of a series of coloured slides, run in conjunction with a tape recording. It dealt with various points concerning the use and sales technique of cameras and other photographic goods. We found it most interesting and informative, especially as it made particular reference to the sale of cameras in the pharmacy. Afterwards, Mr. White patiently answered our many questions, and to conclude, a delicious supper, very kindly provided by Kodak, was served.—National Publicity Officer R. L. McARTHUR, 24 Somerset Road, Glen Iris, S.E.6, Vic.

Overseas News

GREAT BRITAIN

London, April 9, 1954.

Recommendations on Economy.

The committee set up to enquire into the cost of the National Health Service continues to receive evidence from various bodies. The evidence put forward by the Scottish section of the British Medical Association includes the following statement:

It is felt by many doctors that, since the inception of the National Health Service, the public have been over-encouraged to make full use of the Pharmaceutical Service and that this has led to patients making clamant and insistent demands upon their doctors to be supplied with many of the less necessary medications, such as tonics, palliatives and other placebos. It has been found difficult at times to resist these demands and it is desirable that more vigorous steps should be taken than have been hitherto to educate the public by radio, press and other means to understand that it is in their own and everyone else's interests to leave it to the doctor to decide what to prescribe and when it is necessary.

In the pharmacological and therapeutical departments of our medical schools, stress is rightly laid on the scientific and pharmacological outlook, but often insufficient attention is paid to what might be called the art and economy of prescribing. The young practitioner, with this scientific outlook and with proprietary remedies at his command, tends to use these remedies too readily and we have little doubt that large quantities of the newer and more expensive preparations,

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COMMON COLDS

HAY FEVER, SINUSITIS and CATARRHAL CONDITIONS



*Compound Isotonic Nasal Drops of
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such as antibiotics and glandular preparations, are used in this way where a simple and less costly remedy would be equally effective.

At present a fee is paid to the chemist contractor for a container for every prescription. It would be no hardship in our view, if, as under the National Health Insurance Service, a charge were made for containers, refundable on return of the containers in usable condition.

There are two further points in connection with the cost of this service to which we wish to draw attention. We think that there is a tendency to forget that the exhibition of many of the modern drugs, apart from saving lives, materially shortens many illnesses. Thus, regarding the matter from a purely economic standpoint, the high cost of these drugs may actually be more than offset by the saving in sickness benefit and in time lost to productive work. The extent of this saving is naturally difficult to estimate, but it is certainly considerable and must be borne in mind in making any true evaluation of the real cost of the drug bill.

The second point also relates to the difficulty in estimating this real cost. A big item in the gross cost, as is well known, is the money paid for proprietary preparations which are often more expensive than their official equivalents. Part of the cost of these preparations relates to research undertaken by the firms which produce them and to their export trade, activities which, of course, are of great general benefit to the community. Thus, to the extent that this is the case the National Health Service vote is subsidising pharmaceutical research and export. It seems at least a question that should be examined, whether this kind of expenditure should come within the National Health Service accounts.

Australia's Example Quoted.

The committee has also received evidence from the Fellowship for Freedom in Medicine which postulates, *inter alia*:

The doctor's first responsibility is to his patient and not to a State employer. Medicine can never be treated as if it were a public utility service. It is equally certain that the public do not want their doctors to become civil servants.

Those who can afford to pay should make a substantial contribution to the cost of treatment, appliances and drugs. The purpose of the charge of 1/- on prescriptions was not only to reduce the cost of the pharmaceutical service, but to reduce excessive demands on the doctors. Unfortunately, says the Fellowship, the charge has not had this effect, perhaps because it was not sufficient.

The Fellowship believes that the Australian scheme offers a much better alternative, and one which deserves study. In this scheme all essential drugs (on an agreed schedule), such as are necessary to prevent and cure serious illnesses, to prolong life, and to alleviate lengthy suffering, are provided at the cost of the State (without any charge per prescription): all other drugs and medicines are paid for by the consumer. The Australian Schedule of these essential drugs comprises a list of 215 preparations, and also provides safeguards so that they are not used indiscriminately for the treatment of minor conditions. All drugs not on the free list are paid for in full by the consumer (unless he belongs to the necessitous or to the pensioner class). Such a scheme would appeal to the traditional sense of fairness of the British people. Furthermore, modifications of this scheme would permit that: (1) other drugs and prescriptions could be allowed on payment of a fixed percentage of the cost or of a set prescription charge; (2) those in receipt of pensions and other allowances could obtain all drugs and dressings free. The Fellowship finds it difficult to believe that the average citizen in full employment cannot contribute a much higher proportion of the cost to the N.H.S. of his drugs and appliances.

The overall cost of containers is about £1 million per annum: this figure is not surprising, it is said, when it is learned that they may cost up to 1/6 each. Clearly some system should be evolved which would reduce this waste. The Fellowship understands that pharmacists are not in favour of this on account of the expense of collecting and cleaning the containers, but milk distributors have successfully overcome this difficulty.

Drastic alterations, the memorandum concludes, will have to be made in the structure of the N.H.S. before a proper approach can be made to the problems of the sick person. The control and administration of the Service will also require extensive alteration to effect efficiency with economy.

Council Affairs.

There appears to have been little controversy at Council meetings recently, but the interest taken by the members generally is shown by the fact that 19 candidates have come forward for the seven vacancies at the election next month. There is bound to be some change in membership, as two members of the present Council are not seeking re-election. The Council has issued a statement on the request put forward at the last branch representatives' meeting for the provision of club and social facilities in London. The financial arrangements involved in acquiring, equipping and maintaining suitable premises in the vicinity of the Society's house will be examined. A committee has been set up to look into the proposed conditions for the award of the Fellowship of the Society.

Students, Politics and Pharmacy.

The British Pharmaceutical Students' Association began its annual Conference in London on April 6. The theme of the Conference has been "Modern Trends in Pharmacy." After an opening address on this subject by Professor H. Berry, Sir Hugh Linstead spoke on Politics and the Future of Pharmacy. After reviewing the Society's history, as affected by legislation, he said that at present the professional situation was fairly satisfactory and they were regarded by their colleagues in other countries almost as a model of what a pharmaceutical community ought to be. They had control over two things which were quite fundamental: education and professional discipline. Compared with thirty years ago, the position looked good, and there were only two obvious outstanding problems—the position of assistants, and the position of pharmacists in the Army, Navy and Air Force. The present view was that it would be unwise and inexpedient to give any formal recognition to the unqualified assistant; this had always been a very nicely balanced question. The problem of pharmacists in the Services still remained to be dealt with, but there were signs of a more enlightened attitude in the Service departments.

Admitting these two rather minor problems to be still at large, there were two focal points from which developments in pharmacy could be expected to flow: the universities and the National Health Service. Good relations between the Society and the University were enormously important, and any possible cleavage should be avoided. The National Health Service was going to have a very obvious impact on pharmacy. Although unlimited service was offered, there were only limited sums of money to pay for it, and the Minister of Health was personally responsible to Parliament for the doctor and the pharmacist doing their job properly. As money was needed for certain priorities (elderly people, tuberculosis and mental health), the other services were being examined and economy was being imposed quite fiercely and quite properly, on prescribing. Attention must be given to the proper dispersion of available manpower and womanpower, and they might find the Minister of Health taking an interest in the staffs employed in chemists' shops. Bearing in mind the shortage of money and need for economy in manpower, he might be anxious that the professional qualifications should not be too high. Sir Hugh added that there was

absolutely no indication that the Ministers were actively taking this point of view, and that the Ministry of Health would like to see more pharmacists of the present qualification employed in hospitals. But, looking ahead, they might find that a Minister short of money might be anxious to "damp down" the professional qualification. A few years ago, there had been a proposal to start a Royal College of Technology and, if it had been developed, it would have provided a means by which a technological qualification might become recognised. It was also probable that the Minister might begin to concern himself with the staffing and internal condition of pharmacies.

Sir Hugh next referred to the growth of employer-employee relationship. In the future, he said, a large proportion of pharmacists would be employees, and, if the pharmacist were to become a salaried official, the need to be supported by the active professional conscience of the organised profession would be very great indeed. If they wanted to maintain what he regarded as the essential feature of British pharmacy—the independent pharmaceutical contractor—they must see that the standards provided were so high as to make it difficult to replace it with State control or State ownership; they must insist on the highest possible standards in retail pharmacy.

Debunking Beauty Preparations.

In earlier News Letters reference has been made to work done by the Birmingham city analyst, Mr. H. H. Bagnall, on halibut liver oil preparations, deterioration in penicillin tablets, and amphetamine inhalers. In his recent report he has called attention to the composition of a number of cosmetics. Among the preparations discussed were:

Bust Improver: A bust improver contained in a collapsible tube was alleged to contain diethylstilboestrol. This substance was actually present and might possibly have some action of the kind claimed, but such a potent drug should not be used except under medical supervision; it has other effects which may be unwelcome, and it should not be used indiscriminately by persons of all ages and conditions. The price of this preparation was, as usual with this type of proprietary article, out of all proportion to its cost or value.

Eyelash Grower: Another expensive beauty-aid sold under the description of "eyelash grower" consisted merely of yellow petroleum jelly containing a little colouring matter and perfume. Exactly the same effect, if any, would be obtained by using ordinary petroleum jelly, priced at 2/6 to 3/- per lb.

Slimming Preparation: A very remarkable so-called slimming preparation consisted of a white powder which was sold in small paper packets, each containing about $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Instructions were given to dissolve the powder in a bath containing hot water, and then after washing with soap in the usual way, to lie in the solution for at least 15 minutes. This procedure, repeated perseveringly for six weeks, was alleged to remove superfluous fat—by precisely what magical process was not stated. In the pamphlet supplied, however, a scheme of dieting was outlined which might have some effect simply because one was advised to avoid certain foods known to be fat forming, but this was given less prominence than the reference to the wonder-working powder. The formula for this was given in pseudo-scientific jargon on the back of the packet, and, when translated, proved to be a mixture of Epsom salts, Glauber's salt, and common salt in approximately equal parts, together with traces of calcium and magnesium chlorides, potassium iodide and bromide and iodine as makeweights. The last of these ingredients was not present at all and would have made no difference if it had been, but a delightful air of immense accuracy in dispensing was given by the declaration of the percentages of ingredients to no fewer than four places of decimals! One could not avoid having the conviction

that much better results would be obtained by drinking the solution instead of bathing in it.

Little Danger from Detergents.

The increased use of detergents throughout Britain has brought many problems to the sewage authorities and ten months ago a committee was set up to study the effects on rivers, water supplies and sewage disposal. The chairman is Sir Harry Jephcott, F.P.S., F.R.I.C., managing director of Glaxo Ltd. An interim report has now been issued which says there should be no immediate alarm in users or the public Health Services. Further investigations, however, are being undertaken. The report recommends to housewives that whatever type of washing product they use, they should rinse their hands thoroughly afterwards in fresh water, and goes on to warn them against using more synthetic detergent than they need for any particular purpose.

Both synthetic detergents and washing products based on soap, it is observed, can cause dermatitis in certain cases. Some physicians think that in a few instances the degree and type so caused are more acute than any known to be due to soap powders, for example, but experiments on man and animals indicate that irritation of the skin under conditions of normal use is relatively slight. Although the long-term effects of daily exposure may be more serious, the evidence so far shows that despite the widespread use of synthetic detergents throughout the country, the incidence of dermatitis is not significantly greater than it was when soaps and alkalis, or preparations based on them, were the only common washing products.

This appears to be equally true both in industry and the home, it is added. "It is known that often the housewife has learned by a process of elimination to select the particular washing product that suits her best, with due regard to the effect on her skin. Many housewives in any event use hand creams after housework, and this may help to reduce the risk of skin trouble."

The committee finds that no general problem of corrosion has arisen so far in the home. The excellent grease-removing properties of synthetic detergents, it is suggested, are liable to expose to view corrosion previously hidden in sink and wash-hand outlets, traps and waste pipes, and may accentuate the need to avoid using easily corroded metals in plumbing equipment. There is a great variety of complaints about corrosion of household appliances. The latter are constructed of various materials, and some contain moving parts requiring lubrication. The committee considers that problems relating to them are best left to the manufacturers of appliances and detergents.

The most serious problems are in connection with sewage treatment. The types of synthetic detergents most widely sold at present produce foam, and the manufacturers of them say that the only products which are both efficient and acceptable to general users have this property.

"The materials used are chemically stable and retain their foam-producing power even when on completion of washing operations, they pass via sewers into sewage disposal works. Foam is today being produced at many sewage works—sometimes to a height of several feet—during the stages of purification at which aeration occurs. It is most marked at works where the activated sludge method is used."

At some sewage works the foam causes danger as well as inconvenience to the operators, and when it drifts off from the works, it is offensive to the neighbourhood. Some methods of suppressing it have been tried with a fair measure of success, notably in the United States, but further research is needed before any can be recommended as generally practicable, economic, and safe under conditions in this country.

The committee adds that at a large number of

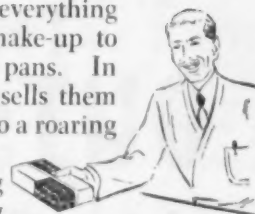
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Kleenex tissues are used for everything from colds and removing make-up to wiping out greasy frying pans. In America *every* type of shop sells them—chemists and drug stores do a roaring trade.

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1953 sales for Kleenex doubled 1952 sales

(1954 will double 1953)

Stock-up with this big, new profit-maker. Kleenex is going to be one of your fastest-turnover lines. We guarantee that we'll soon have Australians using

Kleenex as often as the Americans do. That means a line for you that sells just as often and just as easily as soap or toothpaste.

3 NEW SIZES
at 3 new low prices
for **EXTRA** uses—
for **EXTRA** sales!

Fast-selling, repeat-business Kleenex now comes in 3 sizes. Here's a big chance to encourage extra sales and extra uses.



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Suggests a separate pack in every room. Kitchen, bathroom and bedroom, for quick, handy use.



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KLT-3

KLEENEX tissues are—for Colds,

for Cosmetics

for Greasy Pans

and 1001 other uses!



We recently asked in some of the advertisements for the public to send in suggestions for further uses for Kleenex. We had over 2,000 suggestions in 2 weeks. This shows

how people read the advertisements, and it shows, too, just how many uses people can find for Kleenex. It's a line with infinite Sales possibilities—so stock up!

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STOCK KLEENEX—the fastest selling repeat business line to come on the market in recent years.

STOCK...
THE TOOTHBRUSH
THAT
OUTSELLS
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Stock and display the *one* toothbrush most people know and want! Tek outsells all other toothbrushes. Tek is backed by the most powerful national advertising. Tek sales are quicker, turnover is bigger. Satisfied customers always buy Tek!

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7 QUICK SELLING
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sewage works throughout the country, for various reasons unconnected with the use of detergents, efficient operation and production of an effluent up to the required standard are being maintained with difficulty.

"If the presence of synthetic detergents in the sewage is adding to the difficulties and causing a worsening in the quality of the effluents discharged, there is cause for serious concern, particularly since many sewage works' effluents are discharged to rivers, where there are not only the normal obligations to river authorities, and rights of riparian owners to be considered, but also the interests of statutory water undertakers who draw water from the rivers for public supply."

Special attention is being given to this question, the report states, and to the question whether concentrations of materials from detergents in effluents are likely to harm river life or river-drawn water supplies, and the complicating factors involved in all branches of the investigation make it desirable that meanwhile all generalisations about the effects of synthetic detergents should be treated with great caution.

SOUTH AFRICA

Examination System Under Criticism.

The machinery of the Pharmaceutical Society is now in full swing to arrange the Annual General Meeting, to be held this year in the port of East London. The agenda promises a very interesting meeting; usually the agenda is filled with hardy annuals, but somewhere a few new motions have been raised.

The most startling motion seeks to institute an inquiry into the examination system of the South African Pharmacy Board, with particular reference to the appointment of examiners, the setting, moderating and marking of papers.

Proposed by one of the most powerful branches of the Society, it makes it obvious that there is dissatisfaction with the present examination set-up. Just who is dissatisfied is not clear; the motion is introduced by men who are already qualified, and thus not worried about the examination results; the examiners are not likely to be worried, and the teachers must be resigned to the situation by now.

Joking apart, it must be students who have originated the motion, and students are hardly the best judges, especially since the complainants must be those who have failed. It is remarkable that many students who have failed the examination are very sure that they have passed. Past experience has proved to me that students are not the best assessors of their own capabilities in the examination field. True there are often borderline cases, but candidates invariably fall into two groups—those who pass handsomely and those who fail miserably.

The Pharmacy Board in recent years instituted a system of "duty performed" certificates, in which the College was required to issue a statement that the candidate had a reasonable chance of passing the examination. It was hoped that in this way the percentage passes would be increased, but this has not proved to be the case. Now the "D.P." certificate has been discontinued, and the student is only required to make a minimum of 80 per cent. attendance at the prescribed course.

In the past it has always been possible to have one's examination papers reviewed, but this has been done away with in recent years since it was shown to be unnecessary.

Examiners for the Intermediate Examinations have been drawn from the ranks of University professors and lecturers; for the Final examination, University professors, teachers and practising pharmacists have formed the examining panel. This is exactly as in other centres, but apparently students find some stumbling block in accepting them.

There are many contributory factors to a low pass list in pharmacy examinations. One is the low ratio of teachers to students; it can be argued that one man can lecture to 80 students as easily as to eight, but this is not so. With a small class it is possible to stop and find out whether you have been understood; to discuss special aspects of a subject and to digress. With a large class such procedure would stop all progress.

Further, with small classes it is possible to get to know your students and to find out their difficulties, to help them in private discussion, and to guide their reading.

One thing, however, is certain—if the student is keenly interested in pharmacy as he should be, then large classes or small classes, he will gather more than enough knowledge to satisfy examiners.

Pharmacy Amending Bill.

Before I began this letter I read in the evening paper an account of the second reading of the Pharmacy Amendment Bill. True, the debate was adjourned, but at least the Bill is no longer interred! When and if it becomes the law, the Board will introduce the full time three years course and reduce the apprenticeship to two years.

Whether the three years will produce a better student and a higher pass list remains to be seen.

In pursuance of this idea to make things easier for the student, one Branch proposes to divide the final examination, allowing Physiology and Forensic Pharmacy to be written after six months' study, a proposal which looks harmless enough on the surface. However, when a student begins his Qualifying Course with one subject of his Intermediate Examination still to pass, he invariably devotes all his time to the referred subject, and hence rarely passes his Qualifying Examination at the end of the year.

Another proposal is to make the final examination an internal examination of the Technical Colleges, the argument being that this will make it parallel to the University B.Pharm. There are many difficulties inherent in this idea, the chief one perhaps being that control of the statutory examination would pass into the hands of the Education Department!

Compulsory Membership.

Some other resolutions are also of interest. One seeks to compel all registered chemists and druggists to become members of the Pharmaceutical Society, and another requests the Society to somehow get a Charter. As to the first, "tis a consummation devoutly to be wished." Whether the second is attainable is very difficult to say, since it involves petitioning the Crown, a step having far-reaching political implications.

Sale of Poisons.

The sale of poisons by general dealers is also to come under fire once again. It is anomalous to allow dealers to sell these poisons even if there is a chemist next door. The chemist must sell these things himself, but the dealer delegates this duty to his assistants. Records must be kept in both cases.

Locums Short.

Locum troubles still raise their heads, and the Society is to be asked to establish a Register of Locums, but this will not increase the number of locums, and young men are not very interested in locum tenens posts. In order to attract them higher salaries are the only bait. One solution which has proved very effective is for a Pharmaceutical Society to establish an Emergency Dispensary, opening in the evenings and on Saturdays and Sundays. The qualified staff of these depots are then enabled to do locums locally, to greatly increase their own earnings, and also keep the chemists happy.

Indiscriminate Distribution of Samples.

The indiscriminate issue of samples by ethical houses

is a problem which has stirred one Branch to activity. There is little doubt that this is carried to excess, and greatly contributes to the high prices of these ethicals, whilst the indiscriminate scattering of poisons is greatly to be deprecated. Very few of these so-called samples achieve their initial objective of becoming the subject of a clinical trial.

Prices of Dispensed Medicines.

It is not unusual for the Dispensing Tariff to be the subject of discussion at the Annual General Meeting. This year the discussion will centre around who should control the prices of dispensed medicines. The basic idea will be that these are professional charges akin to the medical fees, and that the Price Controller should have no say in the matter. Since people in the know think that price control will be removed in the not-too-distant future, it seems of little moment. However, there's many a slip! Excessive charging is, of course, a breach of the ethical rules, and a chemist can find himself crossed off the Register if he is not careful!

Name Erased for Contempt.

For the first time for as long as I can remember a member of the profession has had his name erased, in this case for contempt. Failing to reply to the Registrar's letters and not appearing at an inquiry earned for him the dread penalty of erasure.

Unethical Advertising.

Several other chemists found themselves in trouble because of advertising their dispensing services in an unethical manner. In contrast a herbalist was found guilty in a civil court of making up medicines for human use, a prerogative reserved to the chemist.

What is "Knowing"?

The question of how well a chemist should know a customer before he becomes "known" in the legal sense seems to be exercising the minds of some chemists and is to be discussed at the A.G.M. There seems to be an air of levity in the question, since the proposer asks if a Cabinet Minister would be known if he were a casual customer!

Dispensing by Doctors.

One of the outstanding pronouncements of recent months is that made by the new Minister of Health at the inaugural meeting of the Pharmacy Board. When asked if he would restrict the dispensing of doctors, he replied that the time is not yet ripe, adding that doctors give away at least one-third of the medicines they dispense!

"It might be possible to take away their right to dispense in large centres, but in smaller places it would be impossible," he said. At the same time, it is peculiar to hear the term "right" used in connection with doctors' dispensing. In South Africa it is not possible to have electricity put in your house except by a trained electrician, a trained plumber must do your sewage, a trained builder erect, and a trained architect design.

Apparently only in the field of optics is absolutely no training necessary. In dispensing it is to be shared between the trained and qualified chemist and the all but untrained doctor.

The Editorial in the current issue of "The Pharmaceutical Journal" quite rightly deals at length with the problem, and pertinently asks whose rights are being taken away. The writer says, "We know why doctors are making this fallacious claim. We can prove it. They have found . . . the doorway to a commercial activity that produces profit and ties down patients."

The chemist has until now been more or less satisfied that there is nothing to be done about the dispensing doctor, but today he is not so sure! He is becoming increasingly conscious that if the doctor trespasses in his domain he in turn can trespass in the medical field.

Despite the creation of liaison committees between the two professions, committees which are functioning well in many respects, it is apparent that in many cases there is a decided rift developing.

This rift is being created by the flagrant commercialism exhibited by many doctors, not only in the country districts, but in the larger cities.

The Pharmaceutical Register.

The current report of the Registrar of the South African Pharmacy Board reveals that there are now 2374 chemists on the Register, 107 having been placed on it during the year and some 85 removed. The removals have been brought about by the introduction of the annual retaining fee which has revealed that many whose names were on the Register have either departed this life or this land!

In contrast there are only 1512 pharmacies in the Union. Many pharmacies have more than one qualified person, hospitals account for some, but the majority of the rest are in the detail field, spreading the glad tidings of yet another new ethical!

Building Fund.

The fund for the headquarters of the Pharmaceutical Society has now reached some £33,000, a meritorious achievement, considering the 2374 registered pharmacists, but still short of the required £60,000. Building will, however, start within a short time, as it is now imperative for the Society to have ample space to function in. For some time the Society has been seeking a paid secretary, but so far no appointment has been made, although a qualified pharmacist is not necessarily sought. The problem is a serious one, since the qualities of a Secretary of a Pharmaceutical Society must be surpassed only by those of an archangel!

Problems of Organisation.

As I have pointed out before in my News Letters, the South African Pharmaceutical Society is a loose federation of several Societies—loose because at the inception of the Society the Branches wished to retain their autonomy. This autonomy has proved not to be a good thing, especially in dealing with other organisations which are nation wide. It has been found that a Sick Benefit Fund operating throughout the Union has been offered different discounts by various Branches.

This sort of thing makes organisation impossible, and some degree of fusion is to be sought to make the Executive Committee's task lighter.

The forthcoming Annual General Meeting will hear reports upon the progress made in implementing the resolution passed at the A.G.M. in 1953. That progress is remarkably small is a reflection, not upon the Executive's efforts, but upon the general body of members who have a delightful habit of setting tasks which would require the efforts of a superman!

One such resolution which seems incapable of achievement is that to restrict the practice of pharmacy to pharmacists. It requires the shares of a company to be in the hands of a chemist to the extent of 51 per cent.

In other respects progress is slow because so many other organisations have to be urged into activity, if they can be convinced that the proposed line of action is desirable or legal. The resolution to confer upon the Society the right to represent pharmacy in Courts of Law and in other spheres where the Board has no *locus standi* is such a one. Legal opinion has not crystallised on the subject. If, of course, the proposed Charter materialises, then the problem is solved!

Since the Society now administers the Government Dispensing Contract, this recognition has in part been achieved. This has also helped the Society considerably, since all those who wish to share in the contract must become members of the Society; many companies

GUIDE TO NEW PRESCRIPTION PROPRIETARIES

Our aim in presenting these references is to give a summary in regard to each product, rather than all the information available in the manufacturers' literature. Their mention in these columns does not imply editorial recommendation. Prices are no longer quoted because of frequent fluctuations.

DINDEVAN

Supplier: Evans Medical Supplies.
Composition: Phenylindanedione.
Indications: Synthetic anti-coagulant for prophylaxis and treatment of thrombosis, embolism and thrombophlebitis.
Dosage: Orally: 100 mgm. twice daily on the first day, followed by 50 mgm. twice daily. Daily maintenance doses are determined by prothrombin estimations which must be carried out frequently.
Pack: Tablets (50 mg.), bottles of 25 and 100.

DIPHTHERIA-PERTUSSIS—TETANUS ANTIGEN (Glaxo)

Supplier: Glaxo Laboratories (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.
Composition: 1 cc. contains *Hæmophilus pertussis* 20,000 million. Purified diphtheria formol toxoid 25 Lf. Purified tetanus toxoid 0.3 cc.
Indications: Combined immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.
Dosage: Three 1 cc. doses at intervals of at least four weeks by subcutaneous or intramuscular injection.
Pack: Box of 3 x 1 cc. ampoules; 10 cc. vials.

TER-VUNGA

Supplier: British Medicinals Pty. Ltd., Sydney.
Composition: Antiseptic cream containing 5 aminoacridine HCl 0.1%, sulphathiazole 3%, sulphanilamide 3% in emulsified oil wax base.
Indications: Pyogenic infections of the skin.
Pack: Tubes of 1½ oz.

TOLSEROL

Supplier: E. R. Squibb & Sons.
Composition: Tablets of Mephenesin.
Indications: Fibrositic conditions, muscle spasm, etc.
Dosage: Two or three tablets every four hours. The product should be given after meals or after drinking one-third of a glass of milk or fruit juice.
Pack: Tablets (0.5 g.), bottles of 25, 100, 1000 tablets.

APRAGON

Supplier: Schering A. G., Berlin.
Composition: Tablets containing 0.2 g. aspirin, 0.2 g. phenacetin, 0.095 g. methyl phenylquinolinecarboxylate and 0.005 g. 1-p-chlorobenzyl-2-pyrrolidylmethylbenzimidazole hydrochloride.
Indications: Prophylaxis and treatment of upper respiratory catarrhs and influenzal infections, etc.
Dosage: Adults should take one or two tablets three times a day after meals. Children under five years old should be given half a tablet three or four times a day, older children up to four tablets a day. Tablets may be given suspended in a little fluid or swallowed whole. Copious intake of water afterwards is advisable.
Pack: Tablets (0.5 g.), tubes of 10 and 20.

NEO-FERRUM (Intravenous)

Supplier: The Crookes Laboratories Limited.
Composition: A stable saccharated iron oxide preparation of low toxicity, providing 100 mg. of elemental iron in each 5 ml.
Indications: For intensive iron therapy where oral treatment is ineffective.
Dosage: 5-10 ml. twice weekly. It is advisable to start with an initial dose of 2.5 ml.
Pack: 5 ml. amps., box of 6 and 50; 10 ml. amps., box of 6 and 25.

TOPPINS for TABLETS

TINCTURES
SPECIALITIES
PRIVATE FORMULAE
and
OWN NAME

Packs of pharmaceuticals which advertise YOUR business, yield bigger profits for YOU, and bring the customer back to YOUR pharmacy.



Representatives in All States:

Queensland: S. H. Stewart, Hamilton Street, Brighton, Sandgate, Brisbane.

Tasmania: H. T. Grounds, 4 Victoria Street, Hobart.

Victoria: The John Kiddell Co., temporary premises, 458 Beach Road, Beaumaris, S.10.

South Australia: Arthur L. Searcy, 138 Grote Street, Adelaide.

Western Australia: Geoff. Martin & Son, 64 Pier Street, Perth.

R. D. TOPPIN
& SONS PTY. LTD.

Manufacturing Pharmaceutical
Chemists

45-51 Crystal Street,
Petersham, N.S.W.

Phones:
LM 2023,
LM 4870

Cable Address:
TOPPINSONS,
SYDNEY

GUIDE TO NEW PRESCRIPTION PROPRIETARIES (Continued)

LETHIDRONE

Supplier: Burroughs Wellcome & Co. (Aust.) Ltd., Sydney.
Composition: Injection of Nalorphine Hydrobromide (N-allyl-normorphine hydrobromide).
Indications: As an antidote for morphine and morphine-like drugs, i.e. pethidine, methadone.
Dosage: "Lethidrone" can be injected intramuscularly or subcutaneously, but is usually given by the intravenous route. The dosage which has so far proved effective has varied from 10 to 40 mg. The dose of 40 mg. should not be exceeded in a single injection. Repeated doses have a decreasing effect, and there is evidence that when large they may cause further depression.
Pack: Ampoules of 1 ml. (10 mg.), boxes of 6.

ATEMPOL

Supplier: Norgine Pharmaceutical Products (London) Limited, through R. W. Easterbrook Pty. Ltd., Canterbury, Victoria.
Composition: Capsules containing 250 mg. of 3 methyl-pentyne-ol 3 (methyl pentynol).
Indications: A hypnotic, for rapid induction of sleep. For apprehensive states; as pre-operative medication.
Dosage: Hypnotic: Two capsules on retiring; if patient wakes during night, one extra capsule.
Notes: For barbiturate habituation: Three capsules during withdrawal period, then revert to normal dose of two capsules.
Pack: Non-toxic, non-habit forming; does not produce hang-over. Containers of 12 capsules and 40 capsules.

SODEXOL TABLETS

Supplier: Schering Pty. Ltd., Sydney.
Composition: Tablets containing 1 g. synthetic aluminium sodium silicate and 0.5% extract of belladonna.
Indications: In peptic ulceration.
Dosage: One tablet in half a glass of water three to four times daily, before or after meals, whenever pain occurs.
Pack: Cartons of 60 tablets.

DRAMAMINE

Supplier: G. D. Searle & Co. Ltd., London.
Composition: Tablets of Dimenhydrinate (antihistamine).
Indications: Motion sickness; nausea and vomiting associated with pregnancy, administration of certain drugs, electroconvulsive therapy; also for vertigo associated with Menieres disease, irradiation sickness, hypertension, labyrinthine syndrome and streptomycin therapy; for post-operative nausea and vomiting.
Dosage: Motion sickness: Whether due to travel by sea, air or land, 50 mg. (1 tablet) 30 minutes before departure, and repeated t.i.d. before meals and on going to bed. For children of 5 to 8 years give $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ a tablet, 8 to 12 years $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 tablet, two to three times a day.
Pack: If vomiting already exists to such a degree that the patient cannot retain the dose of "Dramamine," 100 mg. can be suspended in 20 c.c. saline or water and instilled rectally. Scored tablets (50 mg.), tubes of 12, 36, 100.

DUOBARB

Supplier: Virax Ethicals Pty. Ltd.
Composition: Each tablet contains Quinalbarbitone Sodium gr. $\frac{3}{4}$, Phenobarbitone gr. $\frac{1}{4}$.
Indications: Sedative.
Dosage: One to three tablets as directed by the physician.
Pack: Bottles of 25 tablets.

A Special Card Service dealing with Prescription Proprietaries is now available. Subscription, £3/3/- per annum.

WHITE COATS

LADIES' UNIFORM in Pre-Shrunk Cesarine. Shank Buttons. S.S.W. to W. and O.S.



THIS STYLE

in British Pre-Shrunk Drill.

Available for immediate delivery.

Sizes 3 to 8.

CROWN WHITE COATS

Showrooms:

MELBOURNE: VIC. BROOKSHAW, Howey Court, 234 Collins St. MU 5229.

ADELAIDE: K. MACKENZIE, 99 Gouger Street. Phone: LA 3180.

HOBART: H. GROUNDS, 4 Victoria Street. Hobart 3511.

BRISBANE: L. W. D. ROCHAIX & CO., 90-92 Eagle Street. BO 677.

must become associate members, in this way swelling the Society's funds.

The Society has, of course, always represented chemists in Price Control regulations, but in courts of law has not been granted any recognition. This became clear in a court action when it was alleged that an Apothecary's Licence did not confer upon a chemist the right to sell baby foods. Now that a conviction proves this to be the case, someone must make efforts to have the law amended to legalise what the chemists have been doing for years—but who?

Market Report

LONDON MARKET REPORT.

April 9, 1954.

Activity has continued to be on a modified scale throughout the month but the unusual feature is that supplies of a number of commodities are either very scarce or completely exhausted. The most important of these has been ipecacuanha. Only the Nicaraguan variety is offered and it is worth fully 57/6 per lb. on the spot, and forward prices have advanced to 52/6, c.i.f.

Little quassia is available and only uncut quillaia which has gone up to 160/- per cwt.

There are no offers of orris, and Italian rates are 220/- to 250/- per cwt.

There has been an increasing interest in rauwolfia; rates have almost doubled within the year and the famine price of 10/- per lb. is now asked.

Among the pharmaceutical gums, acacia continues to attract buyers, with clean Kordofan now worth 127/6 to 130/- per cwt.

Tragacanth is steady and No. 1 karaya has been sold at 205/- per cwt.

On the spice side, turmeric is unobtainable and ginger is again higher. The African variety has reached 160/- per cwt. with Jamaican No. 3 at 240/- and No. 2 at 250/-.

Cardamons are scarce on the spot, but forward prices are easing.

Aleppi greens are 15/6 per lb. and 13/9, c.i.f. Aleppi seed is 20/6 per lb., c.i.f.

Cloves are unchanged.

Balsams have shown some fluctuations. Canada, paper filtered, is now worth 21/6 per lb., but tolu has gone up to 25/-. Peru is cheaper at 9/- per lb. in bond.

Menthol has been weak; forward prices from Hong Kong are about 27/- per lb., and duty paid material has changed hands at 30/- per lb. Imports have been relatively high in the past three months.

The most interesting feature in essential oils has been the jump in palmarosa; shipment rates have gone up to 47/6 per lb. and holders ask 50/-.

English distilled clove bud oil prices have been brought into conformity with the price of raw material and the average rate is now 45/- per lb.

Aniseed has varied from 9/- to 9/6 per lb. during the month.

Chinese peppermint has been sold down to 18/6, and replacements are around 17/6 per lb.

Lemongrass is easier at 9/6 to 9/9 per lb.

As foreshadowed in the Market Report last month, mercurials have been advanced. The new rates per lb. in quantities under 7 lb. are: Ammoniated mercury, 24/9; perchloride, lump, 22/9; perchloride, powder, 22/6; calomel, 25/3; red and yellow oxides, both 26/3.

Vermillion is 25/9 per lb. in 7 lb. lots.

The world increase in rates for cocoa have forced up manufacturers' rates for theobromine, but on account of competition from the Continent prices are by arrangement.

Trade Notes

SALYRGAN—PRICE REDUCTION.

The following variation in the price of Salyrgan ampoules, 2 ml., box of six ampoules (Bayer Pharma Pty. Ltd.), became operative early this month:

Price to Chemist: 5/9 ea.

Price to Public: 8/8 ea.

D.H.A. DIRECTORATE.

It was announced during the month that Mr. Geoffrey H. Grimwade, Chairman of Directors of Drug Houses of Australia Ltd., has been granted leave of absence for four months, and will go abroad on May 9.

Mr. J. H. McRoberts, Managing Director of Felton Grimwade & Duerdins Pty. Ltd., has been appointed Deputy Chairman of Drug Houses of Australia Ltd.

ROCKE, TOMPSITT & CO. LTD.

It was announced in the daily press on April 9 that Roche, Tomsitt & Co. Ltd. had reported increased turnover and satisfactory trading results for the half-year to December 31, 1953.

Transfer books were closed from April 24 to 30, inclusive, for payment of the interim preference dividend of 2½ per cent. on April 30.

D.H.A. TURNOVER IMPROVES.

On April 10, Drug Houses of Australia Ltd. declared interim half-yearly dividend of 3½ per cent. on ordinary shares, payable on May 21. Books close April 23.

No interim dividend was paid in the previous two years, but finals of 8 and 6 per cent. were paid in 1951-52 and 1952-53.

Directors report improved turnover and profits for the six months to December 31, 1953. The improvement has been carried through into current trading.

HERTS PHARMACEUTICALS LTD.

Following the recent integration of Herts Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Welwyn Garden City, England, into the group of Smith & Nephew Associated Companies Ltd., England, changes have now been made in the Australian marketing arrangements for H.P.L. products.

As from January, 1954, the companies comprising Drug Houses of Australia Ltd. have been appointed official distributors for all pharmaceuticals, Nivea Creme, Nivea Skin Oil and Slek Adhesive Plasters.

All matters relating to descriptive literature, prices, publicity, etc., are now handled by Smith & Nephew (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., 66 Reservoir Street, Sydney (MA 3153).

SIGMA CO. LTD.

Gross trading profit of Sigma Co. Ltd. for the year ended January 25 was £454,259, against £368,671 for 1952-53. Other revenue was £9494 (£10,628). Expenses were £294,244 (£268,124) and other outgoings £8793 (£5621), leaving net profit of £160,719 (£105,554).

After transferring £10,768 to reserves, dividend payment is £148,791, including preference charge, steady 5 per cent. on ordinary shares and stock, and 1/3 (11¼d. for 1952-53) a purchaser's share.

Shareholders at the annual meeting on April 29 approved the increase of nominal capital from £500,000 to £750,000 by creation of 250,000 new shares of £1 each.

The form and presentation of the annual report forwarded to shareholders deserve special mention. Printed on art paper, the Directors' report is followed by graphs illustrating the growth of the company over the period from 1928 to 1954, as reflected in the spectacular rises in sales, dividends and number of share-

holders and staff, to whom acknowledgment is paid for their enthusiasm, ability and loyalty. The annual accounts are followed by an illustration of the Collins street property purchased during the year by the company; it is planned that ultimately there will be a 10-storey building on the Collins street frontage.

REVISED PRICES FOR HERTS PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.

Smith & Nephew (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. advises that considerable reductions have recently been made in the prices of pharmaceuticals manufactured by Herts Pharmaceuticals, Welwyn, England. These pharmaceuticals include such products as:

"Pycaside" brand Isoniazid (Isonicotinic Acid Hydrazide) in tablets of 50 mgm.

"Paramisan Sodium" brand Sodium Salt of Para-Aminosalicylic Acid in tablets and powder.

"Pashets" Cachets, 1.5 g.

"Pronutrin" brand casein Hydrolysate.

Full details of all products and prices may be obtained upon request from Smith & Nephew (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., or from any of the D.H.A. Associated Companies.

ALLENBURYS CHILBLAIN STICKS.

For this winter Allen & Hanburys (A'asia.) Ltd. has commenced marketing what is believed to be something new on the Australian market—Allenburys Chilblain Sticks, which can be used for either unbroken or broken chilblains.

Each stick resembles a lipstick and is used in the same manner by pushing from the base when continued rubbing on chilblains causes the stick to become smaller.

Each stick contains:

Phenol	1%
Camphor	6%
Balsam Peruv	2%
Benzocain	3%
Glycol-iodosalicylic ester	10%

Prices are: Wholesale, 23/4 per dozen; retail, 2/11 each.

EVANS MEDICAL SUPPLIES LTD.

The Annual Report and Accounts of Evans Medical Supplies Ltd. for the year ended December 31, 1953, and the usual Supplement have been posted to stockholders in preparation for the Annual General Meeting which will be held in Liverpool on May 5.

Net profit for the year amounted to £60,069. Including interim dividend already paid, the return to ordinary stockholders in respect of the year 1953 will be 10 per cent.

The company has drawn special attention to the feature "Partners in Enterprise" accompanying the Annual Report and Accounts. Attractively produced on art paper, and carrying a good range of illustrations, it is an excellent means of bringing under notice the wide ramifications of the company and the efforts being made to consolidate markets in South-East Asian countries in particular.

FAULDING DIRECTORS TRAVELLING ABROAD.

Mr. A. F. Scammell, chairman and managing director, and Mr. R. T. Patterson, technical director, of F. H. Faulding & Co. Ltd., left early this month on a three months' visit to the United States. While away they will confer with the principals of Chas. Pfizer Incorporated, stated to be the world's largest producer of antibiotics, for which F. H. Faulding & Co. Ltd. is the Australian agent.

In an interview prior to his departure from Australia, Mr. Scammell said: "It is our intention to contact several companies, with which we already do business, with regard to the production in Australia of some of the more important lines. Additional space for the production of these materials has already been secured

by my company and it is to be hoped that we will return with a good deal of information which will be of value not only in the manufacturing field but also in stock handling and merchandising generally, and in selling and publicity. I consider that the trip should be full of interest, although it will be very strenuous."

SMART NEW JAR FOR "VASELINE" HAIR CREAM.

"Vaseline" hair cream, successfully launched last year in a tube, has now taken a big step towards building an even greater share of the hair cream market.

This popular new product is now being marketed in a distinctive new jar especially designed by Chesebrough for easy handling and attractive appearance. "Vaseline" hair cream in the jar and tube is being supported by an unusual hard-selling advertising campaign. This started back in December last year with the sponsorship of the Davis Cup Final, followed up with the "get on the ball" radio spot announcements and the "cream of them all" sports commentators press series.

As well, "Vaseline" hair cream is featured in large window display cards and counter display pieces.

The new jar is being introduced in a compact half-dozen sell-out container for quick counter turnover.

"VASELINE" LIQUID SHAMPOO IN NEW PACK.

Chesebrough Manufacturing Co. has introduced its "Vaseline" liquid shampoo in a new pack. This super-soft formula product which the manufacturers claim soared to top seller in three years is set for an even bigger market share in 1954.



Left to right: P.C.D. Sales Manager, Mr. Harry Ashman, Chesebrough Managing Director, Mr. Ralph E. Ward, and P.C.D. Merchandising Executive, Mr. Jack Macredie, discuss some of the new display material with Mr. R. Alcock, Director, J. Walter Thompson Advertising Agency.

The new "feminine appeal" pack is planned to keep present users sold . . . bring back old users . . . and attract new users. We are informed that what is claimed will be the biggest shampoo merchandising drive ever to be launched in Australia will back this new "Vaseline" liquid shampoo package. Striking pack crownners, counter sell-out cartons, giant pack dummies, display cards and big impressive window pieces are all lined up.

All this point-of-sale display material is supported by colour advertising in the "Australian Women's Weekly," plus unusual press and magazine advertisements.



Shown above are Mr. J. McKay and Mr. F. G. Helman (Sales Managers of 2UW and B.W. & Co. respectively) exchanging contract copies with the obvious approval of (left to right) Mr. L. J. Hay, of 2UW, and Messrs. J. J. Doenau, K. J. C. Johnson and A. O. Squires, of B.W. & Co.

ALLEN & HANBURY'S (A'ASIA.) LTD.

Pholcodine.

The New Anti-Tussive Drug.

What is Pholcodine?

Pholcodine is the approved name given by the British Pharmacopoeia Commission to morpholinylethylmorphine, a new ether of morphine.

Chemical, pharmaceutical and clinical studies of this new cough sedative were carried out in the Pharmacological Laboratory, Faculty of Medicine of Paris. Investigations showed that Pholcodine is an effective cough sedative of low toxicity.

The Advantages over Diamorphine (Heroin).

Diamorphine is the most potent drug of addiction known and because of this disadvantage its use as a cough suppressor has been severely criticised. Pholcodine, which is no more likely to cause addiction than codeine, offers an effective alternative to diamorphine as a cough sedative.

The Advantages Over Morphine.

Pholcodine does not cause constipation or digestive upset. It is well tolerated by infants and children.

The Advantages Over Codeine.

Pholcodine has a sedative action superior to that of Codeine. It is less toxic than codeine and is employed in smaller doses; this is of particular importance in the treatment of young children.

The World Health Organisation Expert Committee on drugs liable to cause addiction (Third Report, 1952) expressed the opinion that morpholinylethylmorphine is not more liable than codeine to produce addiction, and that it is less readily convertible than codeine to an addiction-producing drug.

The specific anti-cough action of pholcodine was demonstrated in a series of tests carried out in the human subject, in which intravenous injections of a drug called lobeline were used to stimulate the cough centre. The results of these tests, we are informed, have been confirmed in clinical experience.

This new drug, pholcodine, has been used for the first time in Australia by Allen & Hanburys (A'asia.) Ltd. and is incorporated in its new, palatable linctus known as "Sednine," which is now obtainable throughout Australia, packed in 3 oz. bottles, as follows:

Wholesale list price: 38/- dozen.

Retail: 4/9 each.

"KEPLER" TAKES THE AIR.

The accompanying group photograph of executives of Burroughs Wellcome & Co. (Aust.) Ltd. and Broadcasting Station 2UW Sydney was taken at the conclusion of discussions and the signing of the first contract for radio advertising entered into by B.W. & Co. "Kep-ler" programmes to be featured during the 1954 winter season in Sydney are "Victoria, Queen of England," through 2UW for a series of 52 episodes each of 15 minutes at 3.45 p.m. on Mondays to Thursdays; and a series of "spot" advertisements in the Children's "Gang Show" from 2SM Sydney each evening from Monday to Saturday.

P.A.T.A. PRICES

P.A.T.A. OF N.S.W.

Notified 1/4/54:

Correction—General Section.

Size.	Retail	Wholesale
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Hillcastle Pty. Ltd.:

	Inecto Hair Dye	48/3 doz.
N.B.:	Notice dated March 23, 1954 stated price as 47/-	
doz.	This, however, is the net price (i.e., 48/3 less 2 1/2	
	per cent.) charged by manufacturer in direct sales to	
	retailers.	

Chemists' Section: Additions.

Bristol-Myers Co. Pty. Ltd.:

Medium	1/9	Ipana Toothpaste—Chloro-	
		phyl	14/- doz.
		3 doz. lots	13/- doz.

General Section: Addition.

British Medical Laboratories Pty. Ltd.:

8/6	Menthoid Creme	76/6 doz.
	(To be included in Parcel Advantage.)	

General Section: Alteration.

Potter & Birks Pty. Ltd.:

10/6	"Vibrona," Tonic	
	Wine	94/- doz.

Notified 14/4/54—

Chemists' Section: Additions.

Size	Retail	Wholesale
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William R. Warner & Co. Pty. Ltd.—

100s	7/6	Peritrate Tablets	60/- doz.
100s	9/-	Proloid Tablets, 1/4 grain	72/- doz.
100s	11/10	Proloid Tablets, 1 grain	94/6 doz.

F. H. Harvey Pty. Ltd.—

20s	2/11	Phen-O-Phos	24/- doz.
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General Section: Additions.

F. H. Harvey Pty. Ltd.—

4 oz.	2/6	Easol Liniment	20/- doz.
2 oz.	2/6	Ti-Tree Ointment	20/- doz.
		Raymond Mullis Pty. Ltd.—	
1/2 oz.	7/9	Devon Violets	54/- doz.
1 oz.	11/8	Devon Violets	80/- doz.
3 oz.	19/3	Devon Violets	11/- each
7 oz.	35/-	Devon Violets	20/- each
No. 17	20/-	Devon Violets, Flask	11/6 each
1 oz.	12/3	Flaroma Orange Blossom	84/- doz.
	6/6	Cutipen—Self-contained plastic	
		cuticle pen	45/- doz.

GLAXO LABORATORIES (AUST.) PTY. LTD.

Information as follows has been received in reference to a number of Glaxo products:—

Vetostelin Injection and Drench.—Introduction of a new veterinary product, Vetostelin, which is available in two forms—an Injection and a Drench—is announced.

Vetostelin has a wide application to the sheep industry, one dose of 2 ccs of the Injection or half a fluid ounce of the Drench, given in the autumn, being sufficient to prevent unthriftiness and possible rickets in lambs, hoggets and yearlings which are to be wintered on green oats or barley. The prices and packs of Vetostelin are:—

	Trade	Retail
Vetostelin Injection—		
Vials 30 ccs	11/3 each	15/9 each
Bottles 220 ccs	54/- each	72/- each
Vetostelin Drench—		
Tins 1 gallon	120/- each	160/- each
Tins 1 quart	39/- each	52/- each
Bottles 12 oz.	12/6 each	17/6 each

Reductions in Prices, Glaxo Penicillins.—As from May 1, the trade prices of some potencies of Penicillin Glaxo and its preparations will be reduced. In order to allow retail pharmacists to quit stocks at existing prices, those payable under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme will not be reduced correspondingly until June 1. The new trade prices of the products concerned are:

Crystalline Penicillin Glaxo.—Vials: 1,000,000 units, 3/9 each; 2,000,000 units, 7/4 each; 5,000,000 units, 16/11 each.

Seclophen.—Vials: 400,000 units, 2/6 each; 2,000,000 units, 8/7 each; 4,000,000 units, 16/6 each.

Mylipen.—Vials: 3,000,000 units, 15/9 each.

Procaine Oily Suspension.—Vials: 3,000,000 units, 13/- each.

Compropen.—Vials: 4,000,000 units, 16/10 each.

GENERAL PURPOSE GLASS STOPCOCKS

The Standards Association of Australia announces the issue for public critical review of a draft Australian standard specification for general purpose glass stopcocks.

It has been recommended by the Association's Sectional Committee on Laboratory Glassware that British Standard 1751-1952 General Purpose Glass Stopcocks be endorsed without amendment as an Australian standard.

The standard specifies types and sizes of glass stopcocks suitable for general use in laboratory apparatus. Burette stopcocks are included, but not high-vacuum stopcocks, requirements for which are more specialised. A leakage test has been included in order to provide for stopcocks of specified performance. Use of this test has shown that stopcocks passing it in the ungreased state can be rendered free from leakage by the application of a minimum film of lubricant.

The British Committee considered the possibility of providing a standard rigidly specifying dimensions and finish. Some of the features which are embodied in high quality stopcocks are, however, so dependent upon painstaking craftsmanship that it has been regarded as preferable to limit the specification to dimensions only, but at the same time to indicate the particular features which characterise a well-made stopcock.

Copies of B.S. 1751-1952 can be obtained from the Standards Association of Australia, Headquarters Office, Science House, 157 Gloucester street, Sydney, and from branch offices in all capital cities of the Commonwealth and Newcastle, N.S.W., to which addresses comments on the draft should be sent not later than May 17, 1954.

—Press Release, Standards Association of Australia, April 13, 1954.

THE SUPERMARKET HAS ITS PROBLEMS

One astute merchandising expert, E. B. Weiss, of Grey Advertising Agency, recently pointed out that a good many frailties exist in the supermarket, one-stop shopping theory of merchandising. These weaknesses leave some healthy holes through which drug stores—well-operated drug stores—can dig into the consumer needs of a community.

Supermarkets are alleged to acquire only 2 dollars out of every 3 dollars spent by their customers for food. That extra, highly profitable dollar that is being missed could carry a great deal more weight at the bottom line of their financial statements than the meagre profits they are attempting to accumulate from wider and wider diversified lines of merchandise—soft goods and extraneous things, advertised and non-advertised—accepted and not accepted by consumers. Part of this missed dollar in sales is estimated to come from an out-of-stock problem in the supermarkets amounting to about 5 per cent. of top-line volume. It is intimated that the gain from this loss of revenue would offset the volume of some part of the non-food lines that supers are gathering in.

The argument is presented that nearly one-half of general merchandise purchases are made for food and that if food outlets cannot profit from that proportion of the dollars being circulated they won't necessarily find the going any softer in non-food dollars. Department stores introduced the general merchandise theory which the supers are following, but department stores have largely stayed with lines of goods which they knew, while the supers have ventured into nearly every field of retail sales. Mr. Weiss discounts the notion that the super has had to turn to non-food merchandise with higher mark-ups to satisfy their profit picture. He states that many food lines are higher than the alleged traditional mark-up of about 17 per cent. and that actually higher profit food products—20 per cent. to 30 per cent. mark-up—have high turnover because of consumer acceptance and national advertising. Cigarettes, notoriously low percentage products, produce one of the best avenues of profit for supers. Supers have undoubtedly entered non-food lines to solve mounting overhead costs with the questionable procedure of accepting non-advertised merchandise which customers are more reluctant to buy, rather than drive harder for food sales already in their lap.

There are few supermarkets located in an area completely away from other stores—they enter shopping centres with dozens of other types of outlets in order to gain from the traffic created. This would appear to be in strict contradiction to the one-stop shopping philosophy. Actually, women want to shop. It is part of their nature to look and compare. They are not as intrigued by one-stop shopping opportunities as they are by store after store attractively presenting this piece of merchandise and that product. That is the basis for shopping centres. No one questions the success of shopping centres today.

Some of the other weaknesses of the super include the over-sized floor areas about which customers complain, requiring too much foot-work, the shopping cart which does not carry everything easily that the store offers, checking out counters that are slowed down by non-food purchases, rack operations by people outside the store's own control, and too many non-food products that require selling help.

These weaknesses can be made capital by the well-managed drug store and its approach to semi-self selection. Many traditional drug store items need selling beyond self-selection. The customer wants information, is hesitant to buy without it. One-stop shopping is not necessarily the order of the day, even in drug stores.—"The Southern Pharmaceutical Journal," February, 1954.

M&B-ANTISEPTIC CREAM

for cuts
burns
and abrasions

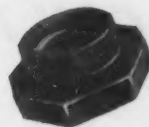


By virtue of the powerful antibacterial activity of propamidine, **M&B Antiseptic Cream** is highly effective in the prevention and treatment of infection in wounds and burns. It is remarkably rapid in its effect, and under its influence healing takes place unchecked. In contrast to the topical application of penicillin, the use of propamidine is not reported to cause sensitization. **M&B Antiseptic Cream** has the added advantage of maintaining its potency indefinitely without special conditions of storage.

Attractive showcards available on request.
Bonus terms of 13 to the dozen offered through wholesalers in return for display services.
M&B Antiseptic Cream is supplied in tubes of 1 oz. at 3/6d.



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246 LYGON STREET, CARLTON, N.3. MELBOURNE. TELEPHONE: FJ 5780

These two Meds

advertisements
trebled enquiries
for the Meds booklet!

You will notice that appeal in both cases is directed to single girls. The response has been spectacular, and here is the reason:

We point out that a recent American national survey of 900 leading gynaecologists and obstetricians indicates that medical specialists overwhelmingly find Meds safe for normal women. Medical literature shows that when a single girl wears Meds there is absolutely no change in physical structure.

Invented by a physician, tampons are regularly worn by thousands of registered nurses.

Advertisements stress the advantages of wearing Meds.

- No belts . . . no pads . . . no pins.
- No revealing line.
- No possibility of odour.
- So easy to change.
- No chapping or chafing.

That is the message which is giving results—each week hundreds of girls are writing to ask about Meds. Hundreds of booklets are going to them with the full sales message.

Those girls must come to you!



THIS Meds COUNTER DISPLAY CAN TREBLE YOUR SALES!

Just as we have trebled our enquiries so you, too, can increase your sales by reason of—

(a) The increased interest due to our press advertising.

(b) The prominent display of the Meds counter display.

Always have it stocked—display it prominently—make it easy for your customers, who've already been told about Meds, to buy.

JOHNSON & JOHNSON

"THE MOST TRUSTED NAME IN SURGICAL DRESSINGS"



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all
new
the
give
in
and

of
free-
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ma-
the
urse
son,
ney,
book-
to-

Commonwealth and State News

COMMONWEALTH

PERSONAL and GENERAL

NATIONAL HEALTH ACT 1953.

By proclamation, published in Commonwealth Gazette No. 21, 5/4/54, Parts III, IV, V, VI, VIII and IX of the National Health Act 1953 came into operation on April 14, 1954.

Part VII (Pharmaceutical Benefits) will become operative as from May 12, 1954, according to a Proclamation published in the Commonwealth Gazette of April 14,

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State News

Members desiring publication of personal items of interest are invited to write or telephone details to the Journal Correspondent in S.A., Mr. E. F. Lipsham.

Mr. R. Brice went to Gawler in the early part of March to relieve Mr. J. Cox.

Mr. D. Buik acted as locum for Mr. H. Gilbert during the last portion of the month.

Mr. G. Scarman assisted Mr. D. Penhall, of Royal Park, during the early part of March.

Mr. B. O'Connor will be returning from Tasmania early in May.

Mr. R. Butler is now managing the branch pharmacy conducted by Mr. A. Lean at Harcourt Gardens.

Mr. L. E. Arbon, late of Yorketown, has purchased Lower's Pharmacy at Rosefield.

Mr. L. Lever has taken out a practising certificate for the Dominion of New Zealand.

Miss S. Adamson, of Queensland, expects to come to South Australia and register here.

Mr. T. Lee is now managing F.S.M.A. at Henley Beach.

Mr. N. Bahnisch is reported to be again taking up residence in South Australia.

Mr. C. Trotter acted as locum for Mr. J. Maxwell, of Hectorville, in the last weeks of March.

Mr. B. Middlemiss has accepted a position with Mr. M. Beaumont, of Launceston.

Mr. J. Otto spent separate weeks in March with Mr. W. Ey, of Colonel Light Gardens, and Mr. D. Underwood over on the West Coast at Tumby Bay.

Mr. J. Christie replaced Mr. H. Frearson as manager of Unley F.S.M.A. for three weeks during the latter's absence on holidays.

Mr. R. Billing has resigned his position in Canberra and returned to Adelaide to join the staff of Birks Chemists Ltd., Rundle street, City.

Mr. B. Rogers has been assisting Mr. W. Spencer, of Lower North Adelaide, at the end of March and beginning of April.

Mr. D. Sales acted as manager for Mr. R. Fisher, of King's Park, during March, and similarly for Mr. H. Fitts, of Kilkenny, during April.

Mr. J. Ongly has been in charge of the dispensary at the Parkside Mental Hospital during the absence of Mr. B. Hayter on annual leave.

Mr. N. Carrig took charge of his own pharmacy at Woodville during March and April during the absence of his manager, Mr. T. Clerk.

Mr. W. Eriksen has resigned from his position on the staff of the Royal Adelaide Pharmacy Department and purchased the business of Mr. A. Lean, of Graymore.

Mr. K. S. Porter, President of the Pharmacy Board, attended a Rotary conference held early in April at Lorne, Victoria, as Vice-President of the Port Adelaide Rotary Club.

Mr. D. Medlow, after returning from Alice Springs and relieving Mr. J. Entwistle at the Commonwealth Hospital, spent the first fortnight of March with Mr. R. Crago, of Warradale.

Mr. J. Manton is now acting as relieving manager for the Friendly Societies Dispensaries Association, going to Brighton (Mr. E. Hillman) and Prospect (Mr. H. Thomas) in March.

Newly-appointed managers of branches of the Friendly Society Medical Association: Mr. A. Cushivay at Croydon, Miss M. Croft at Hawthorne, and Mr. B. Thompson at Rosewater.

Mr. Lee Otto is assisting the pharmacy staff at the Adelaide Children's Hospital while Ron Taylor and Syd Downie enjoy annual leave. Neil Smyth is to be in charge while the chief pharmacist is motoring in Victoria.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Tiver, of Whyte Street, Somerton, are planning a trip to Colombo toward the end of the year. They will be accompanied by their daughter, Miss Charmaine Tiver, and their sons, Wayne and Berkeley. The family party will sail from Adelaide in the Oronsay, and return in the Arcadia.

Mr. Ivan J. Thompson, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria, passed through Adelaide on April 2 en route to England, the Continent and America. During his brief stay he was entertained by Mr. A. C. Holloway (President) and members of the Council of the South Australian Society.

Death from Quinine Tablets.—A two-year-old boy died in the Moonta Hospital on April 7 after having eaten 14 quinine tablets at his home. It was reported that the boy had climbed on a chair in the kitchen of his home and reached the tablets, which were in a high cupboard.

Mr. D. Finlayson has resigned as a member of the Retail Chemists' Industrial Board. The remaining employer representatives, Messrs. F. M. J. Moore and J. C. White, have nominated Mr. Conybeer, Industrial Officer of the Chamber of Manufactures, to fill the extraordinary vacancy.

Mr. S. A. Downie made history during April. All in the same week he played the title role in "I, Caiaphas" (A.B.C. National and Radio Australia) and the name part in Moliere's delightful comedy "Tartuffe" produced by Iris Hart at Stow Hall. Wound up by recording John Masefield's "Good Friday" heard on national relay.

Mr. R. A. Anderson, of the staff of the Royal Adelaide Hospital Pharmacy Department, began lecturing to second year students at the end of March on the new subject entitled Botany's Pharmacognosy. In addition to this subject the new second year course includes biology and organic chemistry, given in both theoretical and practical sessions.

Infant Swallows Turpentine.—An infant from Burnside was admitted to the Adelaide Children's Hospital on April 2 after having drunk a quantity of turpentine at his home. His condition was reported on the following day as being satisfactory.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

Prescription Repeat After 58 Years. Is this a record?—"The News," April 14, published a paragraph concerning the repeating of a prescription by a South African chemist at King Williams Town after a period of 58 years. Sufficient details were given by the woman for the chemist to look up old records and dispense from the original prescription of 1896!

Children Die After Taking Tablets.—A 14-months-old baby boy who swallowed tablets while playing died at the Broken Hill Hospital on April 7. The boy's 2½-year-old sister, who also ate some of the tablets, became ill, but her condition later was reported as satisfactory. A two-year-old Moonta boy died in the Moonta Hospital on April 7 after having eaten about 14 quinine tablets at his home.

Lady Chemist Enjoys Stag Hunting.—Miss Avis Chapman, who is overseas, has recently enjoyed the thrills of hind and stag hunting with the Somerset and Devon Staghounds, and has also seen the Grand National Steeplechase at Aintree, according to news received recently. Miss Chapman is at Porlockford House, Porlock, Somerset, a riding school which she has been attending for several months. She is taking lessons in side-saddle riding.

WEDDINGS.

Loulie Maxime Lewis, daughter of Mrs. W. A. Tapp, of St. Peters, was married in Sydney on April 1 to Mr. Ray Sumner, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Sumner, of South Camberwell, Victoria.

Pamela Joy, daughter of Mr. F. O. Ball, of Milang, and the late Mrs. Ball, was married in St. Andrew's Church, Walkerville, on April 20 to Mr. Anthony Greig, son of Mr. C. G. Evans, of Fullarton, and the late Mrs. Evans.

BIRTHS.

Carlier.—At Henley Private Hospital, to Mr. and Mrs. E. Carlier, a son (Neville David), on March 24.

Cameron.—To Mr. and Mrs. I. Cameron, a son, on March 21.

Fraser.—To Mr. and Mrs. W. Fraser, a son (Timothy Scott), on March 28.

Porteus.—At Leonora Hospital, W.A., to Major and Mrs. J. Porteus, a daughter, on March 16.

Telfer.—At Park Terrace Hospital, to Mr. and Mrs. D. Telfer, a daughter, on March 23.

FIRST INSULIN PATIENT: DEATH AFTER 30 YEARS.

Mr. Clifford Cornish, of Northumberland street, Tumore, South Australia, described in a daily newspaper as "the first Australian to be saved by insulin," died in Adelaide during the month at the age of 64.

The report states that Mr. Cornish lay in a coma at the Wakefield Street Hospital some 30 years ago, and according to doctors had about a fortnight to live at the most.

Advance data concerning the newly-discovered insulin treatment was sent to the late Professor Brailsford Robertson, then Professor of Biology and General Physiology at the Adelaide University, who was a friend and former colleague of the discoverers at the Toronto University. A small experimental supply of insulin was made available and used in treatment of Mr. Cornish, who gradually recovered and was able to return to his work. At the time of his death he was a senior member of the staff of his firm, with nearly 50 years' service.

INQUEST ON CHILD'S DEATH.

Manufacture of Teething Powders Stopped.

At an inquest held on April 2, into the death of a 19-months-old child, the City Coroner, Mr. T. E. Cleland, found that the child died from bronchial pneumonia, due to chronic mercury poisoning resulting from the ingestion for over two months of teething powders containing mercury.

Mr. O. S. Williams, a representative of Chemco (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., Sydney, said that his company had manufactured and sold teething powder for about 20 years. He said that the powders were made from a generally accepted formula and were sold to chemists all over Australia.

Since the death of the child there had been no legal objection to the sale, except in South Australia; nevertheless, the company had ceased the manufacture and sale of the powders voluntarily.

The Coroner said he thought Chemco Ltd. had acted properly in taking the powders off the market.

Mr. M. T. Martin pharmaceutical chemist, Mt. Gambier, said he had sold similar powders for 15 years and had never before heard of them causing any ill effects.

Professor J. B. Cleland, former Professor of Pathology at the University of Adelaide, in evidence said as much publicity as possible should be given to the danger of this type of teething powder, containing mercury. He added, it should also be known that powders containing mercury are quite useless.

RECIPIENTS OF PRIZES AT THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Left to Right: W. Patterson prizes—First Year: Miss H. B. Smith; Second Year: Miss D. M. Henrie; Third Year: Mr. K. B. Glastonbury. Pharmaceutical Services Prizes: Mr. J. M. Lloyd, Mr. K. I. Haddy.

GUARANTEE Announcing

a NEW method of PRICE MARKING ALL MERCHANDISE

STOP LOSSES FROM PENCILLED PRICES

The progressive Retailer will quickly realise the dangers of scribbled prices.

- ★ Little to no space on which to write.
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- ★ 15 minutes a day will give you this result.
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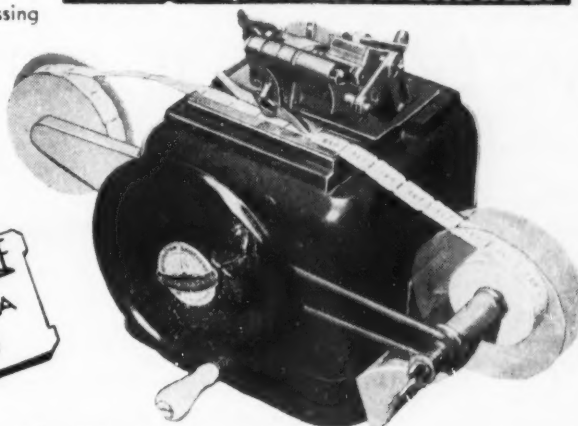
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SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

PHARMACY BOARD

Monthly Meeting

The Pharmacy Board of South Australia met at 25 King William street, Adelaide, on April 14, at 7.45 p.m.

Present.—Mr. K. S. Porter (President) in the Chair, Messrs. E. F. Lipsham, G. L. Burns, B. F. Mildren, D. C. Hill, A. E. Bowey, L. A. Craig and the Registrar.

Correspondence.—A copy of a letter sent by the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia to the Chamber of Pharmacists, Malta, in connection with reciprocity was received.

From the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, forwarding a copy of a letter sent to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain dealing with reciprocity. It was decided that the Pharmacy Board of Victoria should be advised: (1) That this Board has already written to Great Britain along lines similar to the letter forwarded by the Victorian Pharmacy Board; and (2) that no action would be taken in this State without full consultation with other State Pharmacy Boards.

To the Legazione D'Italia, giving details of the conditions under which overseas pharmacists can be registered in S.A.

A survey of the distribution and wastage of qualified personnel in pharmacy has been received from the Pharmacy Board of Victoria and the contents noted.

Following an enquiry from the Pharmacy Board, Department of Health, Canberra, information has been supplied to that department dealing with company pharmacy in S.A.

Testing of Measures.—Reports were submitted of tests made of certain measures, and it was agreed that the individual members of the Board should make further tests and reports would be submitted at a later date.

Draft Australian Standard Specifications for Dispensing Measures for Pharmaceutical Purposes have been received from the Standards Association of Australia and copies of the British Standards 1922-1953 Dispensing Measures for Pharmaceutical Purposes (Metric Units) and British Standards 1921-1953 Dispensing Measures for Pharmaceutical Purposes (Imperial Units) have been purchased with a view to assisting the Board in the testing of measures.

Depots.—An application was received and approved for a depot at Kalangadoo.

It was noted that the amending regulation in connection with depots has been approved and gazetted and it was decided that sufficient copies should be purchased for distribution to all registered pharmaceutical chemists.

Relievers.—Mr. J. H. Manton to Messrs. E. A. Hillman and H. C. Thomas; Mr. J. H. A. Ongey to Mr. B. W. Hayter; Mr. J. A. Christie to Mr. H. T. Frearson; Mr. B. H. Rogers to Mr. G. W. Spencer; Mr. D. A. J. Buik to Mr. H. W. Gilbert; Mr. R. H. Brice to Mr. J. G. Cox; Mr. J. L. Otto to Messrs. W. T. Ey and D. J. Underwood; Mr. N. L. Carrig to Mr. T. A. Clerk; Mr. G. A. Scarman to Messrs. D. F. J. Penhall and K. S. Porter; Mr. D. Saies to Messrs. R. H. Fisher and H. T. W. Fitts; Mr. R. G. Medlow to Messrs. J. Entwistle and R. A. Crago; Miss Y. J. Fircker to Messrs. Saunders & Walker and K. S. Porter; Mr. C. H. Trotter to Mr. J. U. Maxwell.

Labels.—Labels, as used by certain registered pharmaceutical chemists, were considered and appropriate action decided upon. The question was raised as to the use of the words "pharmaceutical chemist" on a letterhead of a person conducting a pharmacy but who is not a registered pharmaceutical chemist.

It was pointed out that in accordance with Section 25 (1) (b) and Section 25 (3) of the Pharmacy Act that no

offence was disclosed provided that a registered pharmaceutical chemist was constantly in attendance at the pharmacy and the name of such registered pharmaceutical chemist displayed in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

Finance.—Statement for the month of March was submitted and adopted, and accounts totalling £16/5/11 were passed for payment.

Practising Certificates.—Correspondence has been received from Mr. L. A. Lever and a Certificate of Identity in his favour has been forwarded to the Pharmacy Board of New Zealand.

Certificate of Identity in favour of Mr. B. R. Middlemiss has been forwarded to the Pharmacy Board of Tasmania.

Correspondence has been received from Miss S. J. Adamson requesting information in connection with registration in S.A. under reciprocal agreement and the necessary information has been forwarded.

Apprentices.—Approval for assignment of five indentures was granted.

Approval was granted to an apprentice for an extension of time for completion of Set 5 galenicals owing to the illness of the apprentice.

Displaced Persons.—An application received from an overseas pharmacist for registration has been sent to the examiners for the purpose of assessing the qualifications of the applicant.

Registration of Premises.—Applications were received and noted from Messrs. T. I. Lee, R. J. Butler, W. W. Erikson, L. E. Arbon, D. K. R. Cock, D. B. Thompson and A. L. Cushway.

Essential Equipment for Training of Apprentices.—Reports and correspondence were considered and necessary directions given to the Registrar.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia met at 25 King William street, Adelaide, on April 6, at 7.45 p.m.

Present.—Mr. A. C. Holloway (President) in the Chair, Messrs. E. F. Lipsham, Walter C. Cotterell, A. A. Russell, D. F. J. Penhall, J. D. Duncan and the Secretary.

Correspondence.—A letter of sympathy has been forwarded to Mr. H. N. Flaherty on the loss of his father.

Correspondence has been received from several members of the Society in connection with the Code of Ethics and various other matters. It has been decided that a Sub-committee of the Council should meet the members concerned and discuss the matters with them. The meeting is to be held on April 28.

Lectures on Pricing.—Arrangements are being made for additional lectures on pricing to be given to third-year students in 1954 and representatives of the Council will confer with representatives of F.P.S.G.A. (S.A. Branch).

Botany and Pharmacognosy.—Approval has been received from the Hospitals Department for Mr. R. A. Anderson to conduct a series of lectures inaugurated by the Council.

Congratulations have been forwarded to Messrs. A. L. Cushway, D. A. J. Buik, J. Z. Palape and G. A. Scarman on successes gained by them in the recent final examinations.

Pharmaceutical Services Lectures.—Report was tabled setting out that as the new course is now in operation the lectures given in the Pharmaceutical Services section will be discontinued after the end of the present academic year.

Squatting.—Correspondence has been received from a member in connection with the building of a block of shops in close proximity to his pharmacy. Secretary

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

reported that he had telephoned the member and explained the legal position to him and requested that when the member becomes aware that a pharmacy is to be opened in the area mentioned he should immediately communicate details to the society's office.

Correspondence has been received from a member in connection with the opening of a new pharmacy in an area in which a number of pharmacists are already operating. The Advisory Committee extended an invitation to all pharmacists in the area to attend a meeting, and at this meeting the position was fully discussed and the members concerned with the opening of the new pharmacy have agreed to give the matter further consideration.

Finance.—Statement for the month of March was submitted and adopted, and accounts totalling £1388/7/5 were passed for payment.

Membership.—Applications have been received and approved from Messrs. A. L. Cushway and G. A. Scarmann.

The Secretary reported that three members had not yet paid their subscriptions. Instructions were given for further correspondence to be forwarded to the members concerned.

Elections.—Secretary reported that arrangements had been made for the necessary advertisement to appear in the "A.J.P." and in the daily papers.

Complimentary Dinner.—The dinner to be given to the newly qualified members is to be held at the Hotel Adelaide, Pirie street, Adelaide, on Monday, May 31.

Post-Graduate Lectures.—The Sub-committee tabled a progress report. The first of the series of these lectures is to be held on April 29.

THE GUILD

S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the South Australian Branch of the Guild met at 254 Sturt Street, Adelaide, on April 12, at 7.45 p.m.

Present.—The President (Mr. Walter C. Cotterell), Messrs. A. C. Holloway, G. F. K. Scott, R. R. Patrick, E. Lloyd Miller, A. A. Russell, J. Retallick, V. L. Mitchell and the Secretary.

New Members Elected.—Messrs. J. M. Dixon, Glenunga; W. W. Erickson, Graymore; L. E. Arbon, Rosefield; A. G. Lean, Harcourt Gardens (Branch); G. M. Smylie, Hampstead Gardens (Branch).

A. G. Lean, Ascot Park, now becomes his main shop instead of Branch.

Correspondence.—From Federal Office: (1) Re Constitution By-Laws—Secretary to consider same and pass on to all S.B.C. members for consideration; (2) re Annual Federal Council Meeting—Members to consider any necessary remits for the Meeting.

Federal Delegate's Report.—The Federal Delegate, Mr. Walter C. Cotterell, gave a general resume on the following matters:

Porters Pharmacy, re Ilford reduction of discounts; it was decided to call a special S.B.C. Meeting when the President received a reply from Federal Office. Amendment to P.B.A. rules; Federal Council Meeting; Letter Director-General of Health re Sulphonamides; Dispensing fees, on P.M.S. re mixtures containing solids; re parcel discount Toni and Prom, Dettol, Steradent, and Elastoplast; re deliveries from Colgate-Palmolive organisations, change now made as desired by chemists; re Frederick Stearns and Nyal Tooth Paste and a Nyal Campaign Drive; re Gillette Safety Razor, and quantities to obtain parcel discounts, explanation

to go in "Gilseal News"; re Modess and Kotex and price variations, Secretary to write Kotex on this matter after consultation with Mr. R. R. Patrick; re Colgate's advertisement in Women's Weekly, re wrong colour of red in such, Secretary to write Guild Federal Merchandising Manager.

Pricing Officer's Report.—The Pricing Officer (Mr. A. A. Russell) gave a resume on the following matters:

Re Drug List and the reference to the necessary deletions from the lists as D.D. Drugs; re Heroin and when this could be prescribed, possibly 12 months; new B.P. re Latin spelling and the change to English spelling (the meeting decided it would be better to retain the old nomenclature, Secretary to write on this subject in consultation with Mr. Russell); re Triple Antigen Item 57a, re Price on 3's and not procurable in 3's; re Checkers and other similar lines (Secretary to write Federal Office re South Australian prices).

Financial Statement was presented to the Meeting and approved.

The Secretary was requested to write Federal Secretary re investment of some funds in the Guild Building scheme. Resolved that £500 be transferred to a savings bank account.

Accounts totalling £284/13/11 were passed for payment.

Insurance.—Correspondence was received from Harvey, Trinder Ltd. in reference to insurance; this was considered at length and resolved that a copy of the proposal be sent to Federal Office for opinion, and that a copy be handed to all S.B.C. members for their consideration.

Meeting at Penola.—The President reported the success of the meeting held at Penola, when members from Mt. Gambier, Penola, Millicent, Bordertown, Keith and Kingston were invited. All present were particularly impressed with the solidity of the Guild, and the visiting members expressed their appreciation to the S.B.C. for visiting their district.

The next country meeting will be held at Murray Bridge on May 16, when all members from the Southern and adjacent districts will be invited to attend.

"Gilseal" Lines.—The packing of "Gilseal" lines for South Australia was before the meeting. The Executive will inspect premises of proposed packers and report at the next meeting.

The meeting closed.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State News

Members desiring publication of personal items of interest are invited to write or telephone details to the Journal Correspondent in W.A., Mr. F. W. Avenell (phone BA 4082).

Birth.—Congratulations to Mr and Mrs. P. V. Hughes, of Cunderdin, on the birth of a daughter.

Mr. M. K. Prichard has accepted a position as dispenser at the Repatriation General Hospital, Hobart.

Visitors at the Pharmaceutical Council office this month included Messrs. R. D. Rogers, of Kalgoorlie, and A. H. Hill, of Port Moresby.

Mr. R. W. Shearer, formerly of Bunbury, has accepted a position with Mr. M. Southie at the Forrest Place Pharmacy.

Mr. T. F. Christie has left the State and is now conducting a guest house at Victor Harbour, South Australia.

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA (Continued)

Mr. Ian Sinclair has purchased the late Mr. Bodkin's pharmacy at Dalkeith. Mr. A. S. J. Rutter will continue the management for Mr. Sinclair.

Mr. E. H. Williams has for some weeks been relieving members of the staff at Fitch's Pharmacy, Hay street, Perth.

Miss M. K. Turner left for England on the "Arcadia" on April 12. She intends spending about 12 months' working holiday in England and will include a visit to the Continent.

Congratulations to **Mr. J. P. Letts**, of Norseman, on his appointment as a Justice of the Peace, and to **Mr. C. M. Wright**, of Midland, who has been appointed a Commissioner for Declarations.

We offer our good wishes to **Mr. L. F. Rowe**, who has opened a branch Pharmacy at Stirling Highway, Claremont. His father, Mr. John Rowe, is managing the new Pharmacy.

Mr. and Mrs. Ivan J. Thompson visited the Council office on April 5 during their brief stay in Perth en route to England per "Strathmore." Council and Guild officials took this opportunity of discussing important pharmaceutical problems with Mr. Thompson.

Royal Ball.—Chemists noticed at the Royal Ball during the visit of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh included: Sir Frank Gibson, Messrs. H. O. Howling, H. D. Fitch, G. D. T. Allan, H. R. Howling, W. R. Read, I. R. Sinclair, R. H. Bingemann and J. R. MacMillan.

A wedding of particular interest to pharmacists took place at Wesley Church, Perth, on April 10, when **Robin Coates** and **Jill Stewart** entered into the bonds of matrimony. Both these young people graduated at the November, 1953, examinations. They have made their home in Geraldton, where Mr. Coates is managing the Pharmacy for Mr. W. J. Bryant. Robin is the son of Mr. Edgar Coates, of Dalkeith.

Council Members.—At the election held last month Messrs. A. A. Baxter and G. H. Dallimore were re-elected members of the Pharmaceutical Council for the ensuing three years, and at the Council meeting Mr. R. I. Cohen was elected President in succession to Mr. H. D. Fitch, who did not seek re-election.

Storekeeper Fined.—At the Perth Police Court on April 1, Mr. J. S. Hollbrook, of Swanbourne, was fined a total of £10, with £14/4/- costs, on charges of selling poison (Antex) without a licence, not having name and address of vendor on label and failing to keep poisons in such manner as to preclude access to them by the public.

Chemists on holiday this month included Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Jewkes, of Bunbury (Mr. L. H. Inglis relieving); Mr. J. C. Watson, of Fremantle (Mrs. E. McDonald relieving); Mr. J. S. Knox-Peden, Perth (Mr. B. Lepper relieving); Mr. J. C. Hamilton, Perth (Miss V. V. Todd relieving); Mr. E. A. Taylor, Boyup Brook (Miss B. Beilby relieving); Mr. N. Davie, Bicton (Miss B. Beilby relieving); Mr. T. A. McInnes, Busselton (Mr. C. Beck relieving); and Mr. J. M. Nicholas, Swanbourne (Mr. P. H. Boobyer relieving).

Obituary.—Chemists throughout the State were shocked to hear of the death after a short illness of **Mr. J. W. Bodkin**. Mr. Bodkin qualified in 1936 and shortly afterwards opened a pharmacy at Dalkeith, which he conducted until the time of his death. He took an active interest in Guild affairs and has been the State Pricing Officer for some years. In this capacity he attended the P.A.A. Conference held in Sydney last August. He was a keen gardener and an active member of the Dalkeith Horticultural Society. Our sincere sympathy is extended to his widow and family.

PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL

Monthly Meeting

The 675th meeting of the Pharmaceutical Council of Western Australia was held at the Technical College, Perth, on April 6, at 7.30 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. H. D. Fitch, T. D. H. Allan, A. A. Baxter, R. I. Cohen, G. H. Dallimore, R. W. C. Dalby, E. J. Nicholas and F. W. Avenell (Registrar).

In opening the meeting the President congratulated Messrs. A. A. Baxter and G. H. Dallimore on their re-election and expressed his best wishes to all councillors for the ensuing Council year.

Training of Apprentices in Office Routine.—It was reported that the conference with Guild representatives to discuss training of apprentices in shop and office routine had been held and the registrar would submit details of the recommendations at the next meeting.

Correspondence.—From the Department of Public Health re Narcotic Drugs. It was decided to agree to the suggestion of the Director-General that the drugs referred to in his letter be proclaimed under the Police Offences (Drugs) Act.

From Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, forwarding certificate of identity in favour of R. T. Platt.

From Police Department, advising deaths of Hilda May Davis at Melville on 4/10/53 (Nembutal, self-administered), and John Daniele, 13 years, Wembley, on 14/1/54 (Paranitrophenyle, self-administered).

Prosecution.—Registrar reported that J. S. Hollbrook had been prosecuted for selling Antex without a licence, having no name and address on the labels, and exposing poison for sale in a place accessible to the public. Total fines were £10, and £14/4/- costs.

Election of Officers resulted as follows:

President: Mr. R. I. Cohen.

Deputy President: Mr. A. A. Baxter.

Treasurer: Mr. G. H. Dallimore.

Auditors: Messrs. Wilson & O'Keefe and Mr. F. H. Neale.

Election of President.—Mr. H. D. Fitch stated that he had decided not to seek re-election, as he considered that it was unfair to other members if one person held office for a prolonged period. His four years as President had been most enjoyable, and it was with a sense of satisfaction that he now relinquished office. He thanked the councillors and office staff for their loyalty and assistance.

Mr. R. I. Cohen thanked the members for electing him to succeed Mr. Fitch as President. He referred to the statesmanlike leadership which Mr. Fitch had brought to the position and the zeal and dignity with which he had performed his duties. He expressed the hope that he would be able to maintain the high standard set by Mr. Fitch and others who had preceded him.

Mr. T. D. H. Allan referred particularly to the excellence of the way in which Mr. Fitch had presided at the Graduation Ceremonies and the sound advice he had given to graduates on those occasions. In congratulating Mr. Cohen on his election, Mr. Allan stated that this was especially pleasing to him as the new President had been one of his apprentices.

Mr. G. H. Dallimore moved that the Council's appreciation of the sterling work performed by Mr. Fitch during his term as President be recorded in the minutes. He congratulated Mr. Fitch on his handling of the Council's affairs during his term of office and his magnanimity in retiring after four years to allow another councillor the opportunity of becoming President. The vote of appreciation was seconded by Mr. A. A. Baxter, who also pledged councillors' support to the newly-elected President. Messrs. E. J. Nicholas and R. W. Dalby, in supporting the motion, endorsed the remarks of previous speakers.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA (Continued)

In replying, Mr. Fitch thanked the members for their kind remarks and again for their assistance during his term of office. He felt that he still owed pharmacy more than he could repay and any service rendered had been a pleasure. He offered his congratulations to the new President.

Committees elected were as follow:

Research Fund.—Messrs. A. A. Baxter, E. J. Nicholas, F. H. Neale.

Legal.—Messrs. T. D. H. Allan, H. D. Fitch, R. W. Dalby.

Education.—Messrs. A. A. Baxter, G. H. Dallimore, H. D. Fitch, E. J. Nicholas, Dr. E. M. Watson (co-opted).

A.P.F.—Messrs. T. D. H. Allan, R. W. Dalby, E. J. Nicholas, N. A. Parry, L. A. Taylor, Dr. E. M. Watson.

Library.—Messrs. T. D. H. Allan, A. A. Baxter, R. W. Dalby, E. J. Nicholas, Dr. E. M. Watson.

Pharmaceutico-Medico Liaison.—Messrs. R. I. Cohen, G. H. Dallimore, F. W. Avenell.

C.R.T.S.—Messrs. T. D. H. Allan, G. H. Dallimore, F. W. Avenell.

Programme.—Messrs. T. D. H. Allan, R. W. Dalby, E. J. Nicholas, together with Dr. E. M. Watson and Messrs. G. D. T. Allan, W. J. Nott, F. W. Avenell and a representative of the Women Pharmacists' Association.

P.A.A. Liaison.—Messrs. H. D. Fitch, T. D. H. Allan, F. W. Avenell.

Tripartite Education Advisory (Council Representatives).—Messrs. R. I. Cohen, A. A. Baxter, H. D. Fitch, G. H. Dallimore, E. J. Nicholas, Dr. E. M. Watson.

Examiners.—The following Examiners were appointed: English, Miss A. Reid, B.A.; Prelim. Chemistry, Mr. N. B. Snell, A.A.C.I.; Maths. and Physics, Mr. F. W. Faulkner, B.Sc., B.Ed. (Melb.); Commercial, Mr. E. J. Hollis, B.A.; Dip.Comm., A.F.I.A.; Materia Medica, Dr. E. M. Watson and Mr. E. J. Nicholas, Ph.Ch.; Biology, Dr. E. M. Watson and Mr. W. J. Gibbney, B.A.; Organic Chemistry, Dr. E. M. Watson and Mr. N. B. Snell, A.A.C.I.; Inorganic Chemistry, Dr. E. M. Watson and Mr. H. W. Parker; Pharmaceutics, 1st and 2nd years, Messrs. E. J. Nicholas and E. W. Hutchinson; Pharmaceutics, 3rd and 4th years, and Dispensing, a board consisting of Messrs. A. A. Baxter, G. H. Dallimore, H. D. Fitch and E. J. Nicholas.

Deaths Recorded.—H. G. Southee (18/3/54) and J. W. Bodkin (28/3/54).

Indentures Registered.—B. R. Carlisle to H. D. Fitch, R. D. Edinger to R. I. Cohen, A. V. Garbin to F. H. Barry, A. F. Hunt to J. F. Dobson, L. A. McKenzie to W. L. Faulkner, H. Rosenberg to W. T. Harrison, K. H. Hurst to G. H. Dallimore.

Financial.—Accounts totalling £344/14/8 were passed for payment.

The meeting closed at 10.30 p.m.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia was held at the Technical College, Perth, on March 24, 1954.

Present.—Messrs. H. D. Fitch (President), R. D. Sunderland, H. Jaentsch, W. T. Harrison, C. Rutledge, F. T. Lorman, E. J. Tyler, L. A. Taylor, M. G. Huggins, H. Howling, G. H. Dallimore, R. I. Cohen, A. W. Rock, A. N. Birks, N. C. Davie, T. D. H. Allan, R. J. Healy, J. G. Skeahan, R. W. Dalby, L. J. Miller, W. O. Cobain, M. J. Cobain, D. Waldby, F. W. Avenell (Registrar), Dr. E. M. Watson, Mrs. G. Lucraft, Mrs. H. M. Lyons.

Apologies were received from six members.

The President opened the meeting at 8.10 p.m. by extending a welcome to those present. He mentioned particularly Mrs. G. Lucraft, who at that time was the sole representative of the Women Pharmacists; Mr. L. J. B. Miller, who had travelled 150 miles to attend the meeting; and Mr. R. D. Sunderland, the only 1953 graduate present.

Notice of Meeting.—The Registrar read the notice of meeting.

Minutes.—By consent of those present a summary of the minutes of meeting held on March 25, 1953, was read by the Registrar and the minutes as recorded in the minute book and published in "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy" were confirmed.

President's Report.—The report presented by the President included the following references:

Personnel of the Council.—At the Council election in March, 1953, Mr. E. J. Nicholas was elected, replacing Mr. H. O. Howling.

At the Council election held March, 1954, Messrs. G. H. Dallimore and A. A. Baxter were re-elected. I would like to commend Mr. N. Steere, the defeated candidate, for offering himself again for the Council—any man who offers his services for his fellows is worthy of commendation.

Personnel of the Society.—There were 29 Registrations, one re-registration, 12 resignations during 1953, and four deaths. Membership of the Society on December 31, 1953, was 388.

Obituary.—The four deaths that we recorded with sincere regret during 1953 were those of Messrs. R. C. Elphinstone, W. S. Priestley, J. R. Temby and R. D. Wreathall.

The late Reg Elphinstone was a member of the Pharmaceutical Council from 1928 to 1939 and was a member of the Dispensing Examination Board from 1932 until the time of his death.

Since December 31, two other members of the Society have died. They are Messrs. A. H. Lord and H. G. Southee. It is fitting that at this juncture we should stand in respect for these late members of our Society.

Education.—The examinations pass list is a reflection of the high standard of both facilities and teaching personnel at the Perth Technical College. The friendly and helpful co-operation of the Principal of the College and his staff, with the Council, has facilitated the education problems of your Council.

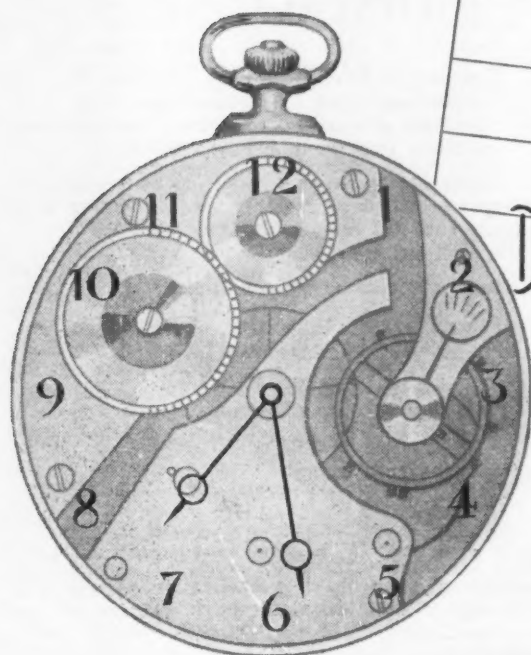
The apprentices' education is now spread more evenly over the four years of apprenticeship. Three half-days are spent at the College each week and the Intermediate Examination has been eliminated—the student being now required to pass examinations each year. These are known as the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year examinations. The elimination of night classes presented a problem of time-tabling where a master had more than one apprentice. Most pharmacies prefer the apprentice to be at the shop in the busy afternoons and over-lappings—i.e., having two apprentices away at the same time, were inevitable. However, as the majority of two-apprentice pharmacies have one in his first year and one in his final year, the timetable was arranged so that no overlapping of 1st and 4th year classes occurred.

I appeal to masters to give their apprentices facilities and help in the practical notebook work which is required by Regulations.

National Service Training.—During the year the military authorities agreed to our request for pharmacy apprentices to do their National Service Training with the University Regiment. The annual camp of the University Regiment interfered less with the students' classes at the Technical College.

Awards.—Your Council is most appreciative of the encouragement given to our students by organisations and firms. Details of these awards and prizes are contained in the report of the graduation ceremony published in "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy," March, 1954, pp. 255-258.

Perhaps I should make reference to the most recent addition to the awards by firms. This is the Parke,



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3 Safety Pins

Contents:

1 Adhesive Plaster
1 envelope Boric Lint
1 Finger Dressing
1 Finger Burn Dressing

Adaptoplast Wound Dressings

A77.

Contents:

2 only 1" x 3 yd. Bandages
1 only 1½" x 3 yd. Bandage
1 only 2" x 3 yd. Bandage
1 envelope Absorbent Wool
1 envelope Boric Lint

1 bottle Sal Volatile
3 Safety Pins
1 tube Acriflavine Jelly
1 bottle Solution of Iodine with brush

Adaptoplast Wound Dressings

A76.

Contents:

1 Compressed Triangular Bandage
1 envelope Cotton Wool
1 envelope Boric Lint
1 only 2" x 4 yd. Bandage
1 only 2½" x 4 yd. Bandage
1 only 1" x 3 yd. Bandage
1 tin Plaster

1 tube Acriflavine Jelly
1 bottle Solution of Iodine with brush
1 bottle Sal Volatile
1 card Safety Pins
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WESTERN AUSTRALIA (Continued)

Davis prize. The inaugural award was on the result of the last November examinations and gave the best two final examination students from each State a trip to Sydney with fares and hotel expenses paid; and, of course, they were entertained by Parke, Davis & Co. Ltd. whilst in Sydney. So successful was the first award that it is proposed to make the award an annual one and also to include New Zealand students.

Graduation Night.—The fifth annual graduation ceremony was held on March 17 at the Mc Ness Hall. Representatives of the organisations and firms who donated prizes and bursaries presented their awards to the winners. Diplomas were presented to graduates and 2nd, 3rd and 4th year students received their certificates for their 1953 examinations. The guest speaker was the Minister for Education, Hon. J. T. Tonkin, M.L.A. It was pleasing to note the increased interest of masters and parents in the graduation ceremony, and I hope that at future graduation nights all apprentices, masters and parents, as well as graduates, will attend.

Refresher Courses.—Your Council is indebted to Mr. E. J. Nicholas for his lectures for the 1953 refresher courses. These courses were "Sterile Dispensing," "B.P. 1953" and "Hormones and Antibiotics." It is proposed that refresher courses will commence again during the winter months.

Monthly Meetings of the Society.—Last year's series of lectures was both interesting and instructive and I think your committee has again drawn up a programme of the same high standard.

Conferences.—Two conferences were held in 1953. In February, representatives of all States met in Adelaide to discuss pharmaceutical education. At the annual meeting of the Society last year, I spoke of this important conference. Education of pharmacy students is constantly under consideration by the Council and College lecturers.

The Pharmaceutical Association Conference in Sydney in August, 1953, dealt with many subjects of pharmaceutical interest. I felt that Mr. Nicholas' paper on the teaching of Practical Pharmaceutics at the Perth Technical College was an outstanding contribution to the conference. The resolutions passed have been printed in the "A.J.P."

Controlled Drugs.—The list of controlled drugs and proprietaries that was sent out in December, showing the conditions of sale governing each has been reported to be most helpful. Chemists have shown the printed list to customers as added justification of their refusal to sell 10th Schedule preparations.

Appreciation of Staff.—In conclusion, I wish to pay tribute to the work of the Registrar, Mr. F. W. Avenell, also to Mrs. Sinclair and the poisons inspector, Mr. J. Allen. Their knowledge of their duties and their keenness and loyalty have been of great assistance to the Council.

The President's report was adopted on the motion of Messrs. H. D. Fitch and R. I. Cohen.

The Treasurer, Mr. G. H. Dallimore, presented the **Financial Statement** and this was adopted on the motion of Messrs. G. H. Dallimore and L. A. Taylor.

Dr. E. M. Watson presented the **Programme Committee's Report** and advised that as soon as the 1954 programme was completed copies would be printed and distributed to members.

The President expressed pleasure that Dr. Watson's health had improved so greatly and thanked him for his assistance in Society matters.

Election of Programme Committee.—The committee was re-elected on the motion of Messrs. H. O. Howling and G. H. Dallimore.

Heroin.—The Registrar notified those present that the amendment to the Police Act prohibiting the possession

or use of Heroin as from January 1, 1955, had now been proclaimed and gazetted. He promised to advise members how stocks held at that time should be disposed of.

Veterinary Medicines.—Some discussion took place concerning the Veterinary Medicines Act and the supplying of restricted drugs for veterinary purposes, but no motion was submitted to the meeting.

Vote of Thanks.—Messrs. A. N. Birks and H. O. Howling, supported by Mr. L. J. B. Miller, moved a vote of thanks to the Council and the Registrar for their services during the year. This was carried with acclamation.

At 9.25 p.m. the President closed the meeting and invited those present to join him at refreshments in the dispensary.

TASMANIA

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State News

Members desiring publication of personal items of interest are invited to write or telephone details to the Journal Correspondent in Tasmania, Miss M. L. Williams, 276 Argyle St., North Hobart (phone B 1010).

Mr. Fuller is settling down in his new sphere, having taken over the Bank Pharmacy from Mr. Don Moore.

Conningham was the haven chosen by **Mr. Tony Orbell** and his family for their break from toil.

Mr. Middlemiss has taken over the managership of Beaumonts Pharmacy, Cimitiere street, Launceston.

Mr. Arthur has become manager of F. Styant Browne & Co., of Launceston.

Birth.—Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Colin Hill, of New Norfolk, on the arrival of a son.

Mr. John Kaufman is leaving the U.F.S. Dispensary after Easter to take up his new position as manager of F. B. Wilkinson & Co., Hobart.

We extend a warm welcome to **Miss Eleanor Ferguson**, of Brisbane, who is working at the U.F.S. Dispensary in Hobart. We hope you enjoy your stay with us.

To **Mrs. Oliver Heyward**, formerly Peg Butcher, we send our congratulations on the arrival of a son at the beginning of March. Peg has been living in England for about five years.

Miss Anne Wilkes is home again after a wonderful holiday on the mainland. She was really thrilled about meeting so many students during her travels.

Miss Janet Anderson is still infected by the "travel bug," for we understand that she now expects to spend May in France and Switzerland before leaving for New York in July. There is quite a possibility that she may even visit Canada.

Miss Jennifer Cramp is another with itchy feet which have taken her over to Melbourne on holiday.

Ulverstone was the favoured spot for **Mr. and Mrs. Ted Shield** for their vacation, and according to Ted it's a pretty good spot.

David Tremayne, Graham Conrad and Rodney Andrews have just returned to civvy street after concluding their time as National Service trainees at the Brighton Camp. Are you still jumping to attention, boys?

Among those lucky people who are enjoying holidays are **Mr. J. A. Walker**, of Scottsdale; **Mr. W. D. Rumney**, of Launceston; **Miss P. B. Wragg**, of Deloraine; and **Mr. A. Widdowson**, of Kingston. **Miss Graeme** is holidaying in Queensland at the present time.

TASMANIA (Continued)

PHARMACY BOARD

Monthly Meeting

The Pharmacy Board of Tasmania met at 85 Elizabeth street, Hobart, on April 12.

Present.—Mr. H. H. Pearce (President), Miss M. L. Williams, Messrs. I. B. McLeod, J. M. Beaumont, E. H. Shield, A. G. Gould and the Registrar.

Pharmaceutical Register.—Eleanor Lovell Ferguson (ex Queensland) was registered.

Brian Thomas O'Connor, Diploma of the Pharmacy Board of South Australia, was received.

Brian Robert Middlemiss: Certificates of Identity received from the Pharmacy Board of South Australia.

Malcolm Keith Pritchard: Certificate of Identity received from the Pharmaceutical Council of Western Australia.

Apprentices.—Clarence Cocking: A request was received from Mr. Cocking for an exemption in Physics, having passed the leaving examination of the University of Melbourne in Physics in December, 1942, and Chemistry in December, 1943. The meeting decided to ask Mr. Cocking if he intended to sit under the old syllabus for which he was originally accepted or whether he desires to transfer to the new syllabus.

Lecturers for Launceston.—Correspondence from Mr. Cartledge setting out the steps that had been taken in Launceston in an endeavour to find lecturers for Pharmacy and Materia Medica in Launceston, but all approaches had failed to find a person prepared to take this responsibility. Mr. Cartledge pointed out that there were only two students affected at this stage and felt that it would therefore be necessary for the Master Pharmacists to handle this matter themselves.

The suggestion of Dr. Burgin that the students concerned should come to Hobart one day a fortnight had not been considered satisfactory by those concerned.

As there were only two students affected, the meeting considered that Mr. Cartledge's suggestion of Master Pharmacists handling the instruction themselves was the most practical suggestion.

Indentures.—Albert Jacob: A letter was received from Miss E. M. Hurst asking if permission would be granted for this student to commence apprenticeship with her. The meeting decided to grant approval.

Registration of indentures of Ian Cyril James Cameron to Geoffrey Alfred Calver, and of Peter John Swifte to Robert John Prowse were approved.

Barry Kurt Churchill to Charles Osborne Holmes.—Completed indentures were received, but as his academic qualifications were not received consideration of registration was postponed until the next meeting.

Dr. Kostas Kalnenas.—A letter was received setting out full details of his Academic Qualifications and requesting advice as to the requirements of the Board for him to register as a Pharmacist. The Board decided that permission be granted for Dr. Kalnenas to present himself for examinations of the Board in Posology and Toxicology, Oral Prescription Reading, and Dispensing, the first two subjects to be before a panel of examiners. On satisfying the Board in the above three examinations, registration as a Pharmaceutical Chemist in this State would be granted to Dr. Kalnenas.

Examinations.—The meeting decided that the next examinations should be held from June 7-11, subject to confirmation with the Technical College.

Stock Medicines Board.—Further advice was received from the Stock Medicines Board that they were unable to change their meeting time from day to night.

After discussion, Mr. I. B. McLeod was appointed to fill the vacancy on this Board.

Finance.—A financial statement was presented showing a balance of £960/2/3. Accounts totalling £81/18/2 were passed for payment.

Poisons Act: Specified Drugs.—Resolved that the resolution passed by the Board on September 10, 1951, regarding Medical Practitioners under Regulation 10 of the Poisons Act be rescinded and that prescriptions for specified drugs must be written by a Medical Practitioner registered within the Commonwealth of Australia.

Sodium Fluoride.—Advice was received from the Director of Public Health that the merchants concerned in the use of Sodium Fluoride for putting under carpets had been advised of the danger in the use of such and directed to use other insecticides which were less dangerous and more effective for the purpose.

Sale of Veterinary Products.—Further correspondence was received from the Chief Veterinary Officer suggesting that drugs containing active principles such as Penicillin and Streptomycin should only be sold on presentation of a Veterinary Prescription, with the proposal that certain products by proclamation may be declared as suitable for sale without such prescription.

After considering this matter, members decided that such items can more adequately be controlled under the Stock Medicines Act in preference to the Poisons Act.

Advice was received from the Department of Trade and Customs, Canberra, that N-allylnormorphine and its salts, Dextrophan and Dextromethorphan, had been released from control and that the importation and exportation of the following drugs had been brought under control in the same manner as morphine and cocaine:

Alpha-6-dimethylamino-4, 4-diphenyl-3-acetoxyheptane (alpha-acetylmethadol);

Alpha-6-dimethylamino-4, 4-diphenyl-3-heptanol (alpha-methadol);

Beta-6-dimethylamino-4, 4-diphenyl-3-acetoxyheptane (beta-acetylmethadol);

3-dimethylamino-1, 1-di-(2-thienyl)-1-butene;

3-ethylmethylamino-1, 1-di-(2-thienyl)-1-butene;

6-methyl-6-desoxymorphine.

A letter was received from G. J. Coles & Co. Ltd. requesting approval for its label for Phenyle. This was approved.

Sulphanilamide and Sulphacetamide.—Mr. Beaumont asked that consideration be given at the next meeting to the sale of Sulphanilamide and Sulphacetamide in ointments and eye drops.

The meeting closed at 11.15 p.m.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania met at 85 Elizabeth street, Hobart, on April 6, at 6.15 p.m.

Present.—Mr. A. G. Gould (Vice-President), Miss M. E. Andrews, Messrs. C. A. Robertson, K. H. Jenkins, L. J. McLeod, and the Secretary.

Expenditure Sub-Committee.—A meeting of this Sub-Committee had not yet been arranged.

Financial.—Accounts totalling £31/14/7 were passed for payment.

Associates.—Miss Andrews drew attention to the definition of Associates in the Society's Articles of Association, and suggested that it should be amended to include non-registered qualified pharmacists.

Members decided that this matter should be discussed at the next General Meeting.

The meeting closed at 6.45 p.m.



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LIVER
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'Campolon' contains
all the accessory
factors of liver,
including Vitamin B₁₂

'Campolon' Forte
contains a minimum
of 20 microgrammes
Vitamin B₁₂ per ml.

Administration of Campolon is followed
by a prompt and satisfying change in the
blood picture, while the patient's general
condition shows a parallel improvement.
Indicated in pernicious, secondary and nutritional
macrocytic anaemias, sprue.

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5 ml. weekly.

"Forte" 1-2 ml. daily, maintenance 1 ml. weekly.

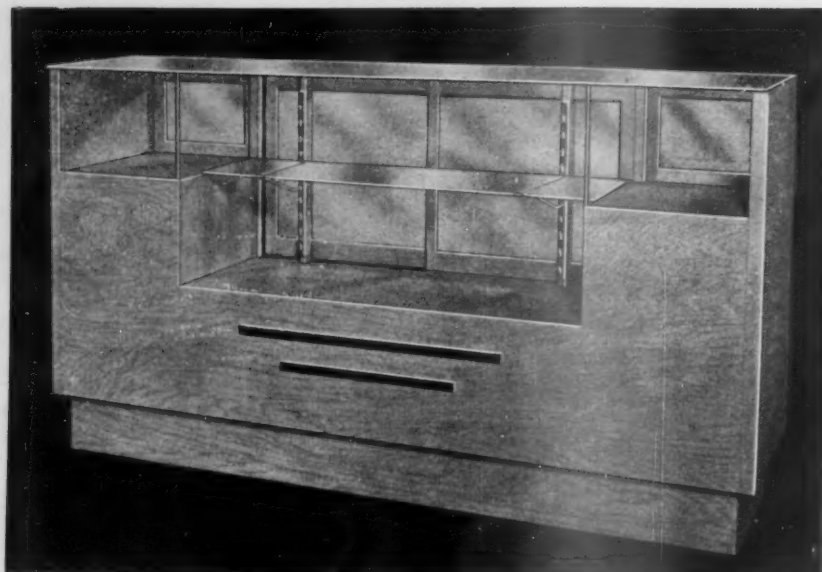
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NEW ZEALAND

PERSONAL and GENERAL

BELATED SIGNING OF TELEPHONED AND REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS.

Minimum Penalty Imposed on New Zealand Chemist.

The belated signing by doctors of telephoned and repeat prescriptions was criticised by Mr. W. A. Harlow, S.M., in the Hastings (N.Z.) Magistrates' Court on December 2, 1953, when Miriam Josephine Hunter, a chemist, for whom Mr. W. E. Leicester, of Wellington, appeared, was charged with selling drugs without a prescription. The defendant was convicted and fined the minimum of £12/10/-, without costs.

For the National Health Board, Mr. H. C. Sproule (Napier), said that Mrs. Rita May Davidson died on July 9 after a self-administered overdose of sleeping tablets bought the day before from the defendant.

He said that Mrs. Davidson had asked for a repeat of tablets that Dr. J. M. Tyler, of Hastings, had prescribed for her on July 1. The defendant had supplied 15 of one type of tablet and 60 of another, both of which were derivatives of a poison scheduled in the Poisons Act.

Counsel added that a prescription was written and signed by Dr. Tyler after the inquest on July 27 so that the defendant could claim social security payments.

An officer of the Department of Health at Lower Hutt, J. I. Ashforth, said in evidence that the prescription for July 8 was written on paper belonging to the defendant's pharmacy.

To Mr. Leicester he said that the defendant's returns to the department showed that she was a most thorough and careful chemist.

He agreed with counsel that though the regulations said that a doctor must confirm and sign the prescription within two days of telephoning it to the chemist, some doctors were not always prompt in doing so. The Chemists' Service Guild had protested to the department about the laxity of observance of the regulations.

Dr. Tyler said in evidence that he ordered the tablets on July 1, but had not authorised a repeat and did not see Mrs. Davidson again. He said he signed the prescription after the inquest as the defendant had described the signing as being just routine.

The practice was for a telephone prescription to be sent to a doctor and signed and returned. In the case of poison it was usual for the patient to sign a blank form which was subsequently filled in according to what was telephoned.

The Magistrate: That means that the patients did not know what they were signing for.

The witness said that had the patient telephoned him for a repeat he would have authorised it.

The Magistrate: Are the Hastings doctors now complying with the regulations?

The Witness: Yes. There has been a general tightening up since the inquest.

Mr. Leicester said it was distressing that the defendant had been singled out. She had been a victim of a system known to the department, acquiesced in by doctors and objected to by chemists.

Evidence was given that it was often weeks before a doctor signed some of the prescriptions.

The Magistrate said that on her own evidence the defendant must be convicted.

"In view of the deplorable practice that has been existing, it is perfectly clear that she sold drugs without a prescription," said the Magistrate. "I am inclined to agree that Hunter was a victim of a system, and think she is no more guilty than the doctor."

He added that the case could not be dismissed as trivial, and as there was a minimum fine he hoped that "the doctor will see that the blow does not fall too heavily on the defendant."

NEW ZEALAND NOTES.

"Do we really want freedom, not only for ourselves, but for the other fellow, too?" was the substance of presidential remarks at the **Annual Conference of N.Z. Retailers**. You see, on the eve of another election we only now wake up to the fact that controls have been lifting these last few years of national government: the decade and a half of Labor Government and the war years had so ingrained the "control" habit of mind.

But the **regulations of pharmacy control** are fourteen years old. It is most interesting to see how the same laws seem to be differently interpreted by the same judiciary, but under different Governments. A law that helped rehabilitate by cutting out competition, now seems to be interpreted to allow a man to cut his own throat (economically) in too close proximity to his neighbour if he will risk his capital so to do. If the licence-granting authority does not interpret the law that way, it seems that the appeal body does. However, the bigger issue of **licensing or no licensing** remains unsolved. The Caucus committee which examined the question last year must have been bewildered by the conflicting submissions, and the Industrial Efficiency Act and Bureau of Industry, cumbersome as they must be for so few industries under their control, still remain law in the land. The big bogey of big company business still looms, and the British experience of its bulldozing qualities influences chemists here a great deal. We, as chemists, doing, in our specialist sphere, just as much business as the Government will pay for, are in this respect restricted. If we preach freedom for all, the "other fellow" with his unlimited capital can swamp us by relying on fields other than dispensing. The Minister of Industries and Commerce has asked various groups to look into restrictive practices. Where freedom from Government control has been granted the Minister notices that freedom to compete with each other is not made use of by individuals. Rather, trade associations are such that they prohibit the possibility of such action. Where would chemists and their associates stand if "standard" lines were priced by Rafferty rules? No. There is no simple answer nor an acceptable norm in these matters. Conflicting political outlooks of the so-called "haves" and "have-nots" continue to cloud the issues.

Our **A.P.C. case** is won in N.Z. courts, but in practice the commodity is still sold in the open market. The right to take the case to Privy Council does not seem to have been exercised. On the other hand, it is understood that the law affecting the case in N.Z. has been brought under close scrutiny. Meanwhile, the good effect of the legislative action is that no other simple combination of drugs has found its way into the open market. **The law maintains the prerogative of the chemist to sell drugs.**

The principle behind the December case where a chemist was convicted for selling a barbiturate without a prescription continues to worry chemists generally. We feel that the onus on chemists to notify the Health Department whenever a doctor overlooks sending a written confirmation of a 'phoned prescription, is an unfair burden. The part of the law which says that the doctor commits a breach by his mistake has never been invoked. Repeated pressure on the chemist seems almost like victimisation.



AND OTHER FUNGOUS INFECTIONS OF THE SKIN

In the summer months when tinea and other fungous infections become most active the demand for a dependable preparation for their treatment increases in proportion. Undex, which has proven its effectiveness in the prophylactic and therapeutic treatment of these infections, becomes more than ever a necessity to every pharmacist's stock.

The Ointment—in 2-oz. tubes.

The Powder—in 3-oz. sprinkler drums.

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AUSTRALIA.

NEW SOUTH WALES

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State
News

Members desiring publication of personal items of interest are invited to write or telephone details to the Journal Correspondent in N.S.W. Phone BU 3092.

*Count that day lost whose low descending sun
Views from thy hand no worthy action done.*

Jacob Bobart (obit c. 1726).

Mr. B. V. Hayes is now in business at 18 Booth Street, Annandale.

Mr. Colin N. Nakkan is now the proprietor of the pharmacy at 66 Dalmeny Avenue, Rosebery.

Miss A. M. Lethe is now in business at 7 Clovelly Road, Randwick.

Mr. Peter N. Walsh has opened a pharmacy at 591 Kingsway, Miranda.

Mr. M. McCarthy has purchased Fisher's Pharmacy at Orange.

Mr. J. A. Haydon has opened a pharmacy at 12 Barker Street, Griffith, Canberra, A.C.T.

Mr. L. L. Eastmuir has purchased the pharmacy of Mr. D. G. Palmer at 11 Blue Street, North Sydney.

Mr. J. E. O'Shea has purchased Mr. Jolliffe's pharmacy at 141 Ramsay Road, Haberfield.

Mr. J. D. Greentree has established a pharmacy at Queenscliff.

Mr. A. T. Davy has opened a pharmacy at East Gosford.

Mr. A. L. Bissaker has opened a pharmacy at Gosford. Mr. Bissaker was formerly in business at Thirroul.

Mr. V. P. Odell has opened a pharmacy at Fairfield.

Mr. J. Bridge has opened a pharmacy at Belfields.

Mr. C. S. Skafte has opened a pharmacy at Chester Hill.

Mr. F. G. Fallon, late Kings Cross, is now in business at Long Jetty.

Mr. V. B. Shiner has purchased Stinson's Pharmacy at Randwick.

Mr. K. J. Ford has purchased Stevenson's Pharmacy at Castle Hill.

Mr. K. McGonigal has purchased Mr. J. R. Nolan's pharmacy at Singleton.

Mr. J. N. Trout has purchased Mr. J. S. Turner's pharmacy at Bondi.

Mr. L. J. Corbet has acquired Reeve's Pharmacy at Chatswood.

Mr. W. C. Sidoti is the new owner of Davidson's Pharmacy at Coogee.

Mr. A. Davis has opened a pharmacy at 203 Macquarie Street, Sydney.

"Town Talk": Ian R. Cummings, of Hurstville has won the John McCory medal for dispensing for 1953—not, perhaps, very significant, except that you've got to be so good to win it that it's been awarded only five times since its inception in 1932. The present president of the Pharmaceutical Society, E. G. Hall, was the last winner—in 1942.—("Daily Telegraph," April 2, 1954.)

U.S. HONOUR FOR MR. A. R. PENFOLD.

It is reported from New York that Mr. A. R. Penfold, Director of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences of Sydney, received the Fritzsche award at the American Chemical Society's annual meeting at Kansas City, Missouri, on March 28.

The award, which consists of 1000 dollars (£446) and a gold medal, is given annually to recognise outstanding achievements in research and new applications of essential oils and related chemicals.

Mr. and Mrs Les Townley, holidaying in New Zealand, forwarded the accompanying photograph of Waiho River Bridge and the magnificent Franz Josef Glacier. They have visited Auckland, Rotorua, Wellington and many other localities in Ao-te-aroa.



Waiho River Bridge and Franz Josef Glacier.

A.S.T. TABLETS.

Not Now a Restricted Drug in N.S.W.

Information has been received from the manufacturers that A.S.T. tablets are now prepared to an altered formula which contains 1.9 mgm. of Dextro Amphetamine Sulphate.

The limit under the Poisons Regulations is 2 mgm.

WOMEN PHARMACISTS' ANNUAL BALL.

The annual Ball of the Women Pharmacists' Association of N.S.W. will be held on June 4, at the Union Refectory. Tickets, £1/1/- each. For reservations, contact Mrs. Campbell, FW 1791.

INCREASED PENALTIES UNDER PURE FOOD ACT.

Increased penalties for offences against Pure Food Act regulations have been gazetted by the Minister for Health (Mr. O'Sullivan).

The regulations now provide for a maximum penalty of £50 for a first offence, £100 for a second offence, and £250 for any subsequent offence.

The old penalties were £20, £50 and £100 respectively.

DRUGS STOLEN AT BOTANY "DANGEROUS".

Police issued a warning on April 2 that drugs stolen from a truck at Botany during the month could be dangerous if used incorrectly.

The drugs were in a parcel taken from the truck outside a chemist's shop in Botany road, Botany. The driver of the truck told police that the drugs were stolen while he was delivering goods to the shop. He said the drugs were in a brown paper parcel 9 in. long by 4 in. wide.

The parcel was addressed "Davidson's of Botany."

POISON FROM MILK BOTTLES.

The danger of careless use of poisons was demonstrated by the poisoning of a youth and a boy aged two during the month. The youth, aged 19, and the small boy, accidentally swallowed ant poison in mistake for milk. According to a report in the "Sydney Telegraph," the police were told that the youth was spraying plants with Argentine ant poison, which when mixed was similar in appearance to milk. He had mixed it in a milk bottle.

The boy was found very sick by his mother. She told the police she had put ant killer in a bottle of milk on a window sill and it is believed the boy swallowed the contents.



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AUSTRALIA'S OWN WICK TYPE DEODORANT
Removes Indoor Odours



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is now available from all
WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS

Satisfied users are publicising its healing qualities.
Daily demand is increasing.

Keep Good Stocks—Order NOW!

If you work for it—it will certainly work for
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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

DOCTOR SENTENCED ON FALSE PRETENCES CHARGE.

In the Sydney Central Court on April 5 a medical practitioner, George Basil Goswell, was given a suspended sentence of twelve months after pleading guilty to 21 false pretences charges. He was fined £1 on each charge. The charges related to the passing of valueless cheques.

During the hearing it was stated that the doctor had gone from New South Wales to Victoria to cure himself from addiction to benzedrine. The addition allegedly dated back to 1948 when he was under great pressure in his work at Walgett, N.S.W.

The newspaper report states that because the drug was too easily available at that time in N.S.W. Goswell went to Victoria, where its sale was prohibited, so that he could break himself of the habit.

DISCUSSION ON H-BOMB.

Four thousand people crowded into the Sydney Town Hall on April 8 to hear four speakers discuss the scientific, moral, and political implications of the hydrogen bomb.

Another 600 people were unable to gain admittance.

The symposium was organised by the senior lecturer in pharmacy at the Sydney University, Mr. S. E. Wright. The chairman was Mr. C. R. McKerihan, president of the Rural Bank.

The speakers were Professor Marcus Oliphant, head of the School of Physics at the National University, Professor Julius Stone, professor of International Law at the Sydney University; Professor A. K. Stout, professor of Moral and Political Philosophy at Sydney University, and Canon E. J. Davidson, rector of St. James's, King Street.—"S.M.H.," 8/4/54.

POISONS ACT PROSECUTIONS.

Irregular Sellers to Pay £142/8/-.

At the Central Police Court, Sydney, on March 25, the following persons were convicted of offences under the Poisons Regulations:

	Fined	Costs
Mr. Winston, Bathurst Street, Sydney (3 counts)	£18 0 0	£9 9 0
Mr. Clark, of Winston's Pharmacy (2 counts)	7 0 0	6 6 0
Sydney Drug Store	12 0 0	3 3 0
Mr. H. Foran, c/o Sydney Drug Store (2 counts)	10 0 0	6 6 0
Mr. F. O. Jacobs, King's Cross . .	17 0 0	6 6 0
Mr. Ticehurst, of King's Cross . . .	4 0 0	6 6 0
Mr. R. S. Cohen (Peter Graham & Co.)	20 0 0	6 6 0
Mr. C. Inga	4 0 0	6 6 0

Proceedings were taken under Regulations 17, 18 and 19.

GET THE ADDRESS!

P.D.L. WARNING.

A recent dispensing mishap repeats prior experience, in that, to prevent or repair grave consequences of the mishap, sensational publicity had to be incurred—by radio broadcasts, police inquiry, etc.

No provision or system can entirely prevent mistakes and mishaps in the pharmacy—else P.D.L. need not exist.

Sensational publicity of these occasional happenings can do untold harm to the chemists directly involved

but also tends to undermine public confidence in pharmacy generally.

P.D.L. Local Board in N.S.W. makes this recommendation:

In order to prevent or lessen chance of harm from the mishap by delay, as well as to obviate deplorable publicity, members are urged to adopt as routine practice, where the address of the patient is not on the prescription and is not known, **TO OBTAIN AND ENTER THE ADDRESS.**

THE SCIENCE GROUP—N.S.W.

At the meeting of the Science Group held at Science House on April 9, there were present Messrs. Anderson, Tippet, West, Ford, Wilkinson and Williams (chairman).

The guest speaker was Mr. Butler, of the Developmental Division of D.H.A., who gave an interesting talk on "Whaling at Tangalooma." He showed a vast knowledge of this subject, pointing out that none of the whale was wasted. The bones were made into meal and the meat was made into fodder for stock, whilst the oil came from the blubber.

He illustrated all his points by projecting photographs on the screen which showed the machinery, boilers, etc., with which this was accomplished. Other photos. showed various points of interest at the whaling station. At the end of the talk all present agreed that they had an interesting and instructive evening, which closed at 10.30 p.m.

The next meeting of the Group will be held on May 14, when Mr. Cusson will speak on "Hormone Weedicides."

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES ELECTION, MARCH 31, 1954.

General State of the Poll.

BENJAMIN, George Gerald	433
FEAGENT, Brian Gray	492
HARDING, Peter Ian	212
PLUNKETT, John Francis	448
READ, Hedley Warwick	532
TOWNLEY, John Leslie	492
WILKINSON, Warwick James	198
WILLIAMS, Bruce Baker	265
WINTERTON, Aubrey Fergus	420

3492

Informal 32

At the annual general meeting, the President (Mr. E. G. Hall) declared the following candidates duly elected as Councillors of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, for the ensuing period of two years:

Messrs. G. G. Benjamin, B. G. Feagent, J. F. Plunkett, H. W. Read, J. L. Townley and A. F. Winterton.

DOCTOR ILL AFTER TESTS, COURT TOLD.

A doctor had made himself ill in tests with an emetic, a detective told Griffith Coroner (Mr. Marsh) on April 13.

The witness, Detective Edwin Reginald Willoughby, said that he and Dr. Reginald Victor McFadzean (both of Griffith) had experimented on themselves with sodium bicarbonate emetic in an effort to throw light on the death of Douglas Smith (2), of Griffith.

The child died in hospital on January 1, presumably after eating tablets found in a handbag at his home.

The doctor and the detective told the Coroner that the quantity of sodium bicarbonate they had taken—assumed to be much less than the amount given the boy in hospital to make him vomit—had produced



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INVALUABLE DURING CONVALESCENCE

following

- ★ INFLUENZA
- ★ BRONCHITIS
- ★ TRACHEITIS
- or the
- ★ COMMON COLD

	Wholesale	Retail
BOTTLES of 8 fl. oz.	3/8 ea.	5/6 ea.
BOTTLES of 16 fl. oz.	6/4 ea.	9/6 ea.



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★ No Restricted or Dangerous Drugs

A personal contact and direct mailing sales promotion campaign amongst N.S.W. physicians, during March and April, 1954, for Anglo-Swiss' new

★ Analgesic and Soporific Sedacyl Tablets* containing:

Acid Acetylsalicyl gr. 4, alkaliised with
Magnesium oxld. gr. 2; combined with
Carmomalum gr. 2, synergistic with
Bromvaleronum gr. 2.

has resulted in increased prescribing of this ethical
and inexpensive preparation.

Packings:	Vials of 10	Bottles of 50
Wholesale:	Per doz. 20/-	Per doz. 70/-
Retail:	Each 2/6	Each 8/9

Check your stocks now and order from any Wholesale Drug
Firm, or from the manufacturers:

ANGLO-SWISS DRUG COMPANY PTY. LTD.
92 Pitt Street, SYDNEY. Tel.: BW 1438.

* See "SYNERGISM IN MEDICINE," A.J.P., 35,410: Feb., 1954.

NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

nausea, violent vomiting, severe diarrhoea and burning
pains in the stomach.

Detective Willoughby said Dr. McFadzean looked very
ill after taking his dose, and appeared to have difficulty
in focusing his eyes.

The hearing was adjourned until May 17 after the
Coroner was told a Sydney medical expert would be
called.

THALLIUM ANTIDOTE WINNING.

Although cautious on the subject, medical men believe
that thallium is no longer the dread poison it was a
couple of years ago. This is because of an antidote
provided by the Government Analyst's Department.

Dr. T. A. McDonald, a chemist attached to the De-
partment, said that the antidote enabled thallium
victims to make a complete recovery. Although the
antidote had been used about 10 years ago in Germany
and Spain, it had not been used successfully anywhere
in the world until tried in N.S.W.

"Since we have been using it on a massive scale,
there hasn't been a death," said Dr. McDonald. The
antidote, sodium iodide, was first used in N.S.W. about
the beginning of last year.

Dr. McDonald added: "It renders thallium into a form
in which it does not cause any damage to the nervous
system. We have given some massive doses of the
antidote without any ill effects. One woman had taken
a colossal dose of thallium—the largest ever recorded—
but after sodium iodide treatment for three months
she recovered without any ill effects."

HOSPITAL PATIENTS: INSURANCE.

The following statement was made in the Legislative
Assembly on April 8 by the Minister of Health (Mr.
O'Sullivan):—

On March 31 the Hon. Member for Fairfield asked
whether provision could be made for benefits from the
various hospital funds to be paid direct to hospitals,
and thus obviate the financial embarrassment that
occurred in some instances because of delay in the pay-
ment of the benefits by the hospital funds. I gave the
Hon. Member certain information, and promised him
that I would look further into the matter.

I now wish to say that an arrangement exists whereby
a patient is enabled to transfer to the hospital his fund
benefit, as well as the additional Commonwealth benefit
of 4/- per day, in settlement of his account.

To take advantage of this arrangement, a patient has
only to complete a printed form of authorisation which
has been especially supplied for this purpose, and a
stock of which is kept by each hospital. When this
authority is given, the total of both the insurance and
the Commonwealth benefit is deducted from the
patient's account.

OPIUM HAUL AS EVIDENCE.

Two pounds of raw opium, worth more than £20 an
ounce—one of the biggest hauls for some time—was
produced in Special court, Sydney, on April 7.

For having the opium, a prohibited import, in his
possession, Domingo Munsuratto, 48, a Goanese pantry-
man in the "Himalaya," was fined £100.

Customs investigator C. W. Kenny said he detained
Munsuratto at the corner of George and Market Streets.
In each of Munsuratto's trouser pockets was 1 lb. of raw
opium.

At the Customs House, Munsuratto said that three
days before, a Chinese, who did not belong to the ship,
asked him if he would take two packets of opium

ashore, for which he would be paid £10. Munsuratto told him he arranged with another man, not a crew member, to take the opium ashore and give it to him outside.

Kenny said opium was usually sold for £60 to £80 a lb., depending on the morphine content, but when made up into smokes and retailed, it would be worth more than £600.

—"The Sun," April 7, 1954.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES.

At the 78th annual general meeting of members of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, held on March 31, prizes were presented by the President, Mr. E. G. Hall, as follows:

The Materia Medica Prize (awarded by the Society to the student obtaining the best pass at the examination): Miss Dorothy Paling.

The Pharmaceutical Society's Prize for First Year Botany Students (awarded to the student obtaining the best pass at the examination): Mr. J. F. Gurr.

The Elliott Prize (awarded to the candidate who is successful at the first attempt, and who gains the highest aggregate marks at the final examination out of the successful candidates presenting themselves for the first time): Shared by Messrs. V. A. Bryant and A. J. O'Shea.

The Kodak Prize (awarded for Practical Pharmacy, based on the student's practical work in the final examination, and during his course): Shared by Messrs. C. L. C. Powell and L. C. T. Woods.

Prizes—First Year Apprentices' Examination (The Ray Dodd Memorial Prize)—First Place—Miss Beverley Felton; Second Place—Mr. J. M. Eckert; Third Place—Miss Marie Shirt.

The McCrory Medal for Dispensing: Mr. I. R. Cummings.

Gold Medal: No award was recommended for the Pharmaceutical Society's Gold Medal.

POISONING OF THREE SUSPECTED.

Doctors at Ryde Hospital recently treated three members of a family who police feared had taken poison in mistake for a cough mixture. They are Mr. Bruce Day 29, and his two sons, Morris, two, and Graham, five, all of Higginbotham Road, Ryde. Doctors at the hospital detained them for observation.

Earlier, police searched homes in Gladesville, Ryde, and Putney for families named Day. The search began at 7.45 p.m., when a Gladesville chemist telephoned police. He told them he feared he had made a mistake in a prescription which he had made up for people named Day. The police search for the family lasted nearly an hour.

They rushed Mr. Day and his two sons to Ryde Hospital, and took possession of a bottle of medicine.

Mr. Day's wife said: "A local doctor had prescribed the medicine for Morris, who has been suffering from asthma. We picked it up from the chemist a little after 7 o'clock tonight. My husband jokingly took a mouthful of the medicine to see what it tasted like. Shortly afterwards we gave a dose to Morris before we put him to bed. Graham, who saw Morris having his, wanted a dose, too. We didn't think it would do him any harm, so we gave him a dose to satisfy him. We got the shock of our lives when the police turned up. They grabbed the babies and told my husband to go with them to the hospital."

SURVEY OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SCIENCE GROUP FOR 1953.

January: Election of Officers. Discussion of plans for coming year.

February: Enquiries re apparent differences in colour of Pulv. Mag. Trisil and Bellad. A.P.F. and commercial samples when shaken with water.

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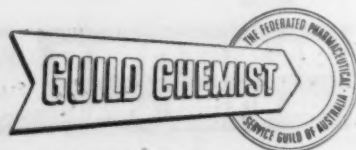
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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

Solubility of Calc. Glucinate.
Solubility of Aluminium Acetate.
Talk on Central Nervous System—Mr. Ward.
Chemistry of Barbiturates—Mr. Lowrey.

March: Talk on Autonomic Nervous System—Mr. Tippet.

April: Lecture, "A Basis of Recognition of Likely Properties of Modern Complex Chemicals"—Mr. Eckert.

May: Fundamental Organic Chemistry—Mr. Wilkinson.

June: Second address by Mr. Wilkinson on above.

July: Third address by Mr. Wilkinson on above.

August: Members of Group attended Mat. Med. demonstration at University in conjunction with the Conference of the Pharmaceutical Association.

September: Members attended a picture night at the Barn at the University in conjunction with S.U.P.A.

October: Visit by members of Group to the dispensary of Prince Alfred Hospital.

November: Reports by members of the results of gelling tests carried out on various samples of Bentonite.

Lecture by Mr. Williams on Surface Active Agents.

THALLIUM PUT IN MEDICINE.

No Ill-Effects: Father Tells Court.

A 33-year-old man poured a bottle of thallium into his father's cough mixture, then went to a football match, Central Criminal Court, Sydney, was told recently.

Robert Bruce Barden pleaded guilty to having maliciously given his father thallium on August 8 with intent to injure him.

Mr. Justice Maguire remanded Barden for sentence to a date to be fixed so that a psychiatric report could be submitted to him.

Det.-Sgt. R. E. Lendrum, of the C.I.B., said Barden lived with his parents in Hamilton Avenue, Earlwood. On August 8 Barden bought a bottle of thallium in the city, returned home and poured it into his father's cough medicine. In the afternoon at the sports ground he disposed of the bottle. The detective said next morning Barden went voluntarily to Regent Street police and left a note at home telling his mother to call a doctor immediately.

Det. Lendrum said Barden had served with the 9th Division of the A.I.F. in the Middle East and New Guinea. He had been discharged from the army medically unfit in 1945 after having received treatment at Kenmore Mental Hospital for a nervous complaint. The detective said Barden's parents told him their son did not drink to excess, but at times was moody and subject to fits of depression.

Barden's father, Robert Spencer Barden, blacksmith, said he had drunk three doses of the cough mixture but had suffered no ill effects.

POISONS ACT, 1952.

Regulations 17, 18 and 19.

17. (1) No person shall sell by retail any restricted drug except upon the written prescription of a medical practitioner, dentist or veterinary surgeon.

(2) The following conditions shall be observed by persons dispensing any such prescription for a restricted drug:

(a) The prescription shall not be dispensed more than the number of times indicated thereon, and on each occasion upon which it is dispensed shall be stamped or marked in writing or otherwise to show clearly the date upon which it is dispensed and the name and address of the person by whom it is dispensed.

- (b) The person who dispenses a prescription which does not indicate the number of times such prescription may be dispensed or which has reached the last occasion upon which it can be dispensed according to the repeat instructions indicated thereon shall write, stamp or mark in legible letters across such prescription the word "Cancelled":

Provided that in respect of any prescription issued under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act, 1947, of the Parliament of the Commonwealth or the National Health (Medicines for Pensioners) Regulations under the National Health Services Act, 1948-1949, of the said Parliament, or in respect of any prescription issued on behalf of the Repatriation Commission of the Commonwealth of Australia, the duplicate of such prescription instead of the original shall be cancelled.

18. Nothing in Regulation 17 applies to the sale by retail of any restricted drug where a medical practitioner, dentist or veterinary surgeon in a case of emergency has orally or by telephone or telegram directed the dispensing of the restricted drug and the sale is made pursuant to that direction.

19. No person shall sell by retail any restricted drug unless there is attached to the container thereof a label showing the name of the restricted drug and the following direction, namely: "This preparation is a restricted drug and care must be exercised in using it."

RULES FOR VETERINARY SURGEONS.

The Minister for Agriculture, Mr. E. H. Graham, has gazetted regulations to control advertising by veterinary surgeons.

The regulations provide that:

A veterinary surgeon may exhibit outside his premises one sign no more than one foot high and two feet long, containing his name, degrees, title, consulting hours, and telephone number.

He may exhibit one fixed lamp, which must not be of the intermittent flashing type. Any lettering on the lamp must be confined to the details mentioned above.

A veterinary surgeon may exhibit no more than two signs showing the words "veterinary surgeon," "veterinary clinic," "veterinary hospital," or "veterinary laboratory," with the title name, if any.

The lettering of the signs shall not be more than one foot in the greater dimension. The sign may be illuminated, but not by a moving light.

A veterinary surgeon may display on a vehicle used by him in his business, his name, address, or place of business, degrees and title, and telephone number.

He shall not display outside his premises, or on any vehicle, any advertisement in the form of a figure or picture of an animal.

A veterinary surgeon may advertise in a newspaper, but the advertisement must not exceed one column in width, or one inch in depth, and must be limited to his name, address, degrees, title, hours of consultation, and telephone number.

No veterinary surgeon shall publish, or allow to be published, the fact that he is treating an individual case.

No veterinary surgeon shall permit any reference to be made to his qualifications or experience, except his degrees and title, in any article or broadcast or public lecture.

ZONE MEETING AT ALBURY.

A meeting of the Albury Pharmacists' Association was held in the 2AY Auditorium on April 5, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Miss Adrienne Fisher (Tallangatta), Miss F. M. Penman (Albury), Messrs. C. Lillyman (Albury), D. Nicholson (Albury), J. Friedlieb (Albury), John G. Downes (Beechworth), C. A. Everett (Melbourne), T. Keogh (Tallangatta), W. K. Wilmot (Corowa), D. A.

P.D.L.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Churchill Building (1st floor), 61-63 Gawler Place, Adelaide (Branch Secretary, O. H. Walter).

WESTERN AUSTRALIA: C/o Technical College, St. Georges Terrace, Perth (Branch Secretary, F. W. Avenell).

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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

Bryan (Albury), Cyril Lewis (Corowa) and Alan Bryant (Albury).

Mr. Lillyman (Chairman) called on Mr. Hall to address the meeting.

Mr. Hall said he was pleased to be present. He came to help pharmacists with their problems, and did not want to appear as a quiz kid who knew all the answers.

Mr. Hall then gave details of compulsory unionism.

With reference to the new Poisons Act, the Society had set up a select committee which had gone into matters very carefully. It had suggested certain amendments to the regulations. The inspectors were not out after Glucofedrin or Nasal Drops. They were after Dexedrine, Benzedrine, Penicillin, Sulphas and Thyroid. "Stick to the law, where it is already clearly set out," said Mr. Hall. "We don't want to see too many chemists charged with offences against the Act. It is no good saying you don't know what the Act requires. You must know of the substances I have mentioned. The fines inflicted in Sydney were very high—too high was the general opinion."

Mr. Bryant enquired how do the inspectors check up on the restricted drugs. "Do they come into the pharmacy and ask for them?"

Mr. Hall: "Yes. A man walks in and asks for 24 Dexedrine, 20 Sulphas and 100 1-grain Thyroids. The money goes over, but before it gets into the till slap goes the authority on the counter."

Mr. Wilmot: "Has the prescription to be cancelled and kept?"

Mr. Hall: "No, cancel the restricted drug prescription, but you need not keep it."

Mr. Conolly then gave details concerning the National Health Act, Disciplinary Committee, Guild Statistics Bureau, etc.

Concerning the Veterinary Dettol Pack, Mr. Wilmot suggested that a small pamphlet be printed to put in with monthly accounts. This would be a good start in the sponsorship of Veterinary Dettol.

Mr. Wilmot said he considered the half gallon and one gallon pack quite okay.

The meeting then discussed the matter of chemist-only lines generally.

Mr. Friedlieb then moved a vote of thanks to the Sydney visitors and the meeting concluded at 10.30 p.m.

N.S.W. PHARMACY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1954.

Provision Made for Holders of Foreign Qualifications.

A bill to make further provision in relation to the registration of pharmacists and to authorise the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales to register as pharmacists persons from overseas who hold pharmacy qualifications and fulfil certain conditions was introduced in the Lower House by the Minister for Health (Mr. O'Sullivan) on April 6, 1954. The bill passed all stages.

In commenting on the bill, the Minister for Health said:

"The Pharmacy Board finds considerable difficulty in assessing the standard of pharmacy schools overseas and feels that means should be provided whereby applicants possessing certificates from such schools may have the opportunity of demonstrating their practical ability in pharmacy and their knowledge of the law governing the profession in New South Wales. The Board has already set up a sub-committee whose duty is to consider the documentary credentials of applicants. It is proposed that, when this bill becomes law, this sub-

committee will classify overseas applicants into two broad groups. Group one will comprise applicants who possess very high qualifications in pharmacy from other countries and who can establish this fact to the Board's satisfaction by authenticated documentary proof. These persons can be registered without further examination under the law as it stands. Group two will comprise those who claim to be qualified pharmacists, but who cannot satisfy the Board that they are suitable for outright registration, but who could be registered after further examination and training. The majority of overseas applications would come within this category. It is in respect of this latter group that the Pharmacy Act is proposed to be amended."

Replying to the Hon. R. Thompson, who asked how many people were likely to be affected by the measure, the Vice-President of the Executive Council (the Hon. R. R. Downing) stated: "No accurate estimate can be made, but the Board does not expect a great influx. Any increase will probably occur gradually because the majority will be required to pass some examination. This is demonstrated by the fact that the bill has actually been sponsored and recommended by the Pharmacy Board, which is the responsible authority administering the Pharmacy Act, and it can be taken for granted that the Pharmacy Board will see that those who wish to take advantage of the new provisions will produce satisfactory proof of their academic qualifications."

The full text of the bill is given below:

1. (1) This Act may be cited as the "Pharmacy (Amendment) Act, 1954."

(2) The Pharmacy Act, 1897, as amended by subsequent Acts and by this Act, may be cited as the Pharmacy Act, 1897-1954.

2. The Pharmacy Act, 1897, as amended by subsequent Acts, is amended by inserting at the end of section eleven the following new subsection:—

(2) A person who proves to the satisfaction of the Board that he is of good character is entitled to be registered as a pharmacist, and shall receive from the Board a certificate in the form of Schedule III to this Act if—

- (a) he is of the full age of twenty-one years;
- (b) he holds a certificate or diploma granted by a College or Board of Pharmacy in any country whether British or foreign (other than New South Wales), which certificate or diploma is recognised by the Board as furnishing such guarantee of knowledge and skill in pharmacy that, if he satisfies the requirements of paragraphs (c), (d) and (e) of this subsection, he will have the requisite knowledge and skill for the efficient practice of pharmacy in New South Wales;
- (c) he satisfies the University of Sydney by examination or otherwise of proficiency in each of the following subjects, namely, chemistry, practical chemistry, botany and materia medica;
- (d) he has passed an examination before examiners appointed by the Senate of the University of Sydney in the subject of practical pharmacy; and
- (e) he satisfies the Board that he has, before or after the commencement of the Pharmacy (Amendment) Act, 1954, served as an assistant for a period of not less than twelve months in the business of a registered pharmacist in New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory, keeping open shop for the purpose of dispensing and compounding medical prescriptions; or for a like period as an assistant to a registered pharmacist in charge of a dis-



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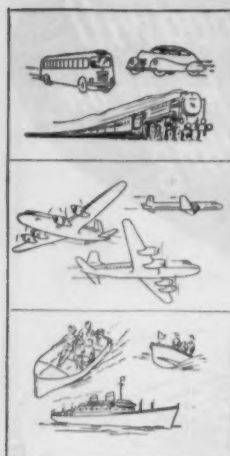
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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

pensary of a Friendly Society in New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory; or for a like period as an assistant to a registered pharmacist who is also a managing director or general manager of a company where such assistantship is served in open shop kept by such company in New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory for the purpose of dispensing and compounding medical prescriptions; or for a like period as an assistant to a registered pharmacist in charge of a dispensary in an open shop kept by a company in New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory for the purpose of dispensing or compounding medicines.

In this paragraph "registered pharmacist" means a pharmacist whose name is entered on the register kept in pursuance of this Act or on the register kept in pursuance of the law for the time being in force in the Australian Capital Territory relating to the registration of pharmacists.

"... ROB AND CHEAT THE GOVERNMENT."

"It is rather galling, however, to find certain individuals are prepared to rob and cheat the Government under the Pharmaceutical Act."

The speaker was Bro. E. Dempster at the annual banquet of the Manly U.F.S. Dispensary, held in the Dispensary Hall on Saturday, April 10.

Bro. Dempster is Vice-President of the F.S. Association and Secretary of the Dispensaries Association of N.S.W.

He was referring to a "battle" with governments concerning "restrictive" legislation preventing the formation of chains of open trading dispensaries and the desire of the Dispensaries movement for amendment of the N.S.W. Pharmacy Act to this end.

"One party likens us to a lot of socialists," said Bro. Dempster; "and the other party looks upon us as capitalists. Consequently, I have given up hope of help from either. However, if we get the desired legislation it will mean not only a better service to Manly and Warringah members, but will further the movement in this area and other parts of the State."

Bro. Dempster declared that as Britishers they were individualists, but they could not get anything in this world unless they put their shoulders to the wheel until they achieved their legislative aim for pharmacy members.

"Our movement is law-abiding," said Bro. Dempster, "and we are not prepared to do anything unethical to the British way of life to get what we want, as we have put it to the various political parties. It is rather galling, however, to find certain individuals are prepared to rob and cheat the Government under the Pharmaceutical Act."

The Manly U.F.S.D. President (Bro. W. A. Gould) said that this Dispensary was started 40 years ago and that in the intervening period two world wars and depressions had proved a hardship for the Dispensary. Trading banks closed the doors on their assets, but today they were in a fairly good financial position, thanks to those who had gone before.

The President said that they gave to their members the best services and pharmaceutical benefits in the State, and they were unsurpassed in Manly, through loyal support. He urged the people of Manly to obtain not only medicines but toilet requisites at the Dispensary, in order to permit of still greater success.

Present at the banquet also were Bro. Luke Smith, chairman of the Commonwealth Drug Co., and Bro. C. H. Atkinson, President F.S. Association of N.S.W.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES: DECLINE IN MEMBERSHIP.

Extracts from Report of the Registrar for the Year Ended June 30, 1952.

Presented to Parliament Pursuant to the Provisions of Act No. 46, 1912, Section 8.

Introduction.

This general report covers the period from July 1, 1951, to June 30, 1952. The statistical review of societies' activities appended hereto is in respect of the year ended June 30, 1951.

Decline in Membership for Sickness and Funeral Benefits.

In the reports of the Registrar for some years past reference has been made to the changing scene in friendly societies' activities. The traditional benefits providing for weekly payments during illness and for costs of funerals at the death of members and their dependants have shown a noticeable decline in their appeal. It must not be thought, however, that these do not still play a large part in their affairs and even on present rates of decline many years will elapse before the societies' activities on these lines can be disregarded. There are still many members contributing for such benefits, the group of members which might be regarded as the "solid core" of these fraternal bodies remains with them, whilst the funds held in reserve for these benefits are in the main still increasing. Actuarial valuations of these funds have revealed that they are financially in a sounder position than ever before and will continue to provide their stated benefits so long as members continue their support.

Paradoxically the loss of members by secession only serves to strengthen the financial foundations for those who remain. So far as this Registry is concerned, supervision over these activities must remain a live interest for a long period.

Attempts to Revive Interest.

Many reasons have been advanced for what appears to be apathy towards these benefits. It has been stated that the rates of benefit now payable are unattractive when compared with current costs of living and societies have endeavoured to revive interest and induce new members to join by offering more attractive benefits in the form of higher sickness benefits even up to the limit of £5/5/- per week permitted by the Act and to the maximum death benefit of £500. These have not met with the response hoped for—in fact, results have been very disappointing. On the other hand, for those members who have tended to drift away from their societies on the score that the sickness benefit is no longer a practicable proposition, societies have investigated the possibility of commuting the benefits and applying the reserves to some other form of benefit. This seems doomed to failure unless it is well publicised and clearly explained to members, as it is scarcely to be expected that many members would fully realise the advantages being offered. In one instance it was even suggested that societies should amend their rules to provide that a member leaving a society should be able to claim a surrender value. Such a provision could result in wholesale exodus from the societies. In order to retain members who are no longer interested in their sickness benefits power to compute into some related form of benefit seems the probable solution.

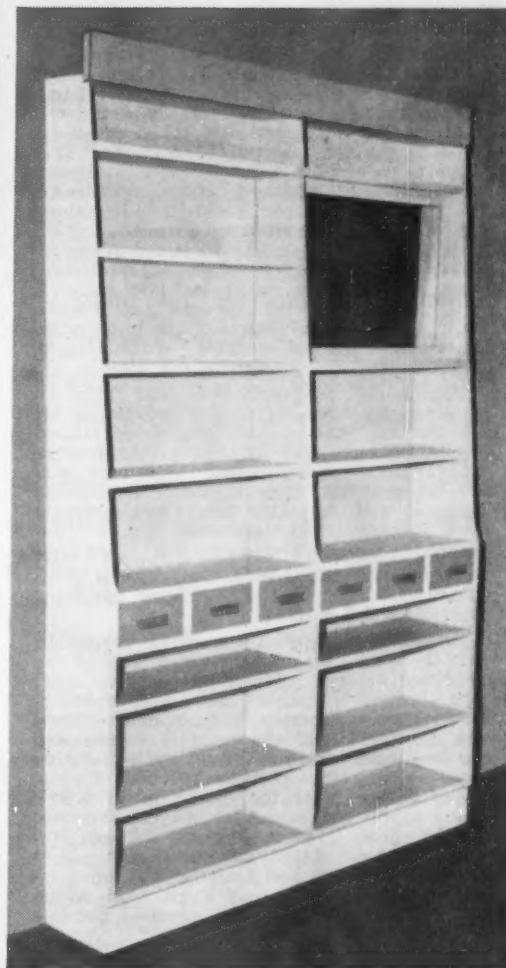
Cataclysmic Decline—Juveniles.

The most marked decline in membership has been evident in the juvenile sections of societies and might

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(No. 2)

VITAMIN E IN MEDICINE

STONE S. Evaluation of vitamin E therapy in psychiatric disorders. *Diseases Nervous System* 11, 355-61 (1950).

The 2800 cases treated with vitamin E included hospitalised psychotic patients and patients with epilepsy and office patients seen in the course of practice of neuropsychiatry. The dose of tocopherol given daily for long periods was 25 to 150 mg. The response to vitamin E treatment was almost invariably good. Patients became less easily fatigued, less irritable, had less indigestion, showed increased resistance to minor infections, and had a greatly improved sense of well-being. Discontinuation of treatment allowed a let-down and relapse in about 7 to 10 days. Associated side effects of interest were restoration of hair texture to normal, lesser incidence of greying of hair, and improvement of hypogenitalism.

Tocopherol administration was also of supplemental value in the treatment of menopausal tension and depressive states, involutional melancholia and manic depressive cases, schizophrenics, arteriosclerotic senile patients, psychomotor epileptics, patients with migraine headaches, patients with dysmenorrhoea, and alcoholics.

BOYD A.M., RATCLIFFE A.H., JEPSON R.P., and JAMES G.W.H. Intermittent claudication. A clinical study. *J. Bone and Joint Surg.* 31B, 325-55 (1949).

Obliterative arterial disease is classified into three groups: primary thrombosis of the popliteal artery, juvenile obliterative arteritis (Buerger's disease), and senile obliterative arteritis. Various methods of treatment are discussed, and the need is emphasised for evaluating results in terms of relative severity or clinical type of the disease. Type 1 represents the condition in which blood supply and muscular demand are very nearly equal; Type 2 in which this equilibrium is attained only above the threshold for pain reaction, and activity is stopped by persistence of pain; and Type 3 in which the equilibrium cannot be reached because of unbearable pain.

Tocopherol, 400 mg. daily, is the only substance that has given consistently good results in cases other than Type 1. Of 72 patients classified as Type 2, 27 were completely relieved and 32 were markedly improved. The consistency with which there was a lag period of four to six weeks before improvement was most striking. After a few months of treatment there was obvious improvement in the appearance of the feet of the patients.

Inserted in the interests of Pharmacists by

Pro-Vita Products Pty. Ltd.,
422 Collins Street,
Melbourne.

NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

almost be described as cataclysmic. Herein might lie the answer to the whole problem, as failure to interest the youth of the community in the fraternal and social aspects of friendly society work is analogous to severing the roots from the tree.

Membership.

The total membership of Friendly Societies decreased during the year ended June 30, 1951, by 12,158, equal to 5.4 per cent., the decrease in adult male membership during the period being 9611, or 5.09 per cent. This was the sharpest decline in any year since the year ended June 30, 1933, when membership decreased by 6.11 per cent., and appears to have been attributable to a large extent to the termination, following a decision of the British Medical Association, of the contract medical service to friendly society members as from April 1, 1951. This service had been an attractive feature of friendly society membership. Societies have taken prompt action to maintain a service to members by instituting schemes whereby, for a regular weekly contribution, members may receive recoups of fees paid to doctors, subject to certain limits.

Miscellaneous Societies.

In addition to the Friendly Societies proper, there were, at June 30, 1951, 22 medical institutes or dispensaries registered under the Act. These societies have no members in the ordinary sense of the term, their "membership" consisting of members of societies or branches which are affiliated with the dispensaries. They are supported by subscriptions from Friendly Societies or branches affiliated with them at a fixed rate per head of membership. As the name implies, dispensaries prepare medicine, in accordance with medical officers' prescriptions, for all members whose names have been placed on their lists by contributing societies or branches. There were also at June 30, 1951, two societies having as their object the reimbursement of medical fees incurred by contributing members and their families.

The receipts of the dispensaries during the year ended June 30, 1951 were £160,838, and the expenditure was £143,398, so that there was an excess of receipts amounting to £17,440.

Figures in respect of the two medical services funds were: Receipts, £65,240; expenditure, £26,405; the excess of receipts being £38,835.

ZONE MEETING AT WAGGA WAGGA.

A meeting of the Riverina and South-West Pharmacists' Association was held in the M.P. and A.A. Rooms, Gurwood Street, Wagga Wagga, on Sunday, April 4, at 11.30 a.m.

There were present Mrs. I. M. Norman (The Rock), Miss D. M. Farrer (Henty), Messrs. A. W. Loch (Wagga), C. R. Glass (Temora), C. N. Small (Wagga), K. Harris (Lochhart), E. L. Glazier (Wagga), R. P. Larkin (Wagga), J. M. McDonough (Wagga), F. J. Ryan (Juncie), V. T. McCabe (Juncie), M. H. Gissing (Wagga), I. Wilson (Temora), E. A. Jerrems (Gundagai) and A. S. Moye (Wagga).

Visitors from Sydney.—Mr. E. G. Hall and Mr. A. E. Conolly.

Opening the meeting, Mr. Loch, President of the Zone, welcomed Mr. Hall and Mr. Conolly, who, he said, were doing a great job for pharmacists in general. He didn't know where they would have been but for the Guild and such an able secretary as Mr. Conolly. Mr. Loch also welcomed pharmacists from outlying districts, particularly Mrs. Norman and Miss Farrer.

Mr. Small read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. A. A. Dobbie for attending the 20th Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference as the Zone representative.

Mr. Loch then asked Mr. Hall to address the meeting.

Mr. Hall said he would deal with Society matters first and then bring under notice the dangers associated with the sale or hire of ray lamps and the dangers associated with the rendering of first aid in open shops.

Society Matters.

1. Compulsory Unionism.—Mr. Hall said that registered and unregistered personnel must join the Shop Assistants' Union. Registered assistants had been under the Chemists (State) Award for many years and it was not possible to form a separate union for them now.

2. Poisons Act.—Mr. Hall said the Act and the Regulations proved a headache but some complaints were exaggerated. The Society had taken steps to correct blatant anomalies. However, the anomalies, although serious, were no excuse for not observing the law. Benzedrine and Dexedrine, for example, were restricted drugs and could not be sold without a prescription. Fourteen persons had recently been fined in Sydney for selling restricted drugs in contravention of the regulations. Inspectors were concentrating on Benzedrine, Dexedrine and Thyroid preparations.

3. New Dangerous Drug Register.—Mr. Hall said the form of the Register had been altered. It now provided for a running balance.

4. Mistakes in Prescriptions.—Mr. Hall said that a chemist got into strife recently. He had used Atropine for Ephedrine. A father and two sons had taken doses of the medicine and the chemist did not have their address. He used the radio and police to trace the patient and brought upon pharmacy a great deal of unfavourable publicity. "For your own benefit," said Mr. Hall, "when you get prescriptions without the patient's address, ascertain their address and put it in your script book. Don't say 'it can't happen to me'."

5. Talks on Merchandising.—Mr. Hall said a talk on Merchandising would be given at Newcastle. "Let me know if you would like a visit to Wagga," said Mr. Hall. The chairman then asked Mr. Conolly to take the rostrum. Mr. Conolly invited questions as he proceeded with each item.

National Health Act.—Mr. Conolly said that Section 86 of the Act removed the previous restrictions preventing public ward patients in public hospitals from receiving pharmaceutical benefits. However, Part VII (Pharmaceutical Benefits) of the Act was not yet in force. The Guild was pressing for the Act to be proclaimed. Section 94 (V) now contained the provision that the dispensing of drugs and medicinal preparations at a public hospital must be performed by or under the direct supervision of a medical practitioner or pharmaceutical chemist.

Mr. Jerrems inquired if there was any definition of dispensing in the Act. Matrons and hospital secretaries queried the definition of dispensing.

Mr. Conolly said there was no definition in the Act. Resort would have to be made to the dictionary meaning of the word taken in conjunction with its normal usage.

Mr. Jerrems queried the matter of the issue of dangerous drugs to the wards.

Mr. Loch said that Sgt. Baker had informed him that the Matron was responsible for the custody and issue of dangerous drugs.

Mr. Small said at Wagga Hospital, P.B. prescriptions were issued from the private section.

Mr. Wilson said he understood the Hospitals Commission had sent out a circular regarding pharmaceutical benefits about six weeks ago.

Disciplinary Committee.—Certain breaches of the P.M.S. Regulations concerning dispensing had been detected and the Disciplinary Committee was inquiring into these.

Mr. Loch said that when the doctors ordered Mist.

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AGENTS SYDNEY

NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

Gent. Alk. they expected the A.P.F. formula. Would it be correct to dispense the A.P.F. formula or should the P.M.S. formula be used?

It was stated that the P.M.S. formula should be used.

Mr. Larkin said that as a chemist was responsible for breaches committed by members of his staff, all should impress upon their staff the necessity of strictly observing the regulations and adopting correct dispensing practice.

Mr. Harris said it should be impressed on doctors when prescribing pharmaceutical benefits to put the brand needed on the prescription, as this affected the recovery rate. Chemists desired to stock the better brands and had to supply them at a loss when the doctor did not prescribe by brands.

The meeting asked that the matter be taken up at the appropriate source.

At this point, the meeting adjourned for lunch at the Australian Hotel.

Upon resumption, Mr. McDonough said if a doctor writes a prescription for a compound tablet, setting out the formula in full and it is not shown in the prescriber's list—would it be possible to specify the brand of tablet supplied and be paid for that brand?

The answer was yes; name the brand, where it is the only tablet which complies with the formula written.

Amendment to Pharmacy Act.

Registration of Aliens.—Mr. Conolly said that during the next week the State Government would be discussing an amendment to the Pharmacy Act to permit the registration of aliens in New South Wales. It was understood that the Bill did not contain any provision limiting its operation to a given period.

Mr. Harris said he had worked with a man when he was going through. This man who was an alien, was very well qualified and experienced, but he could not speak English.

Mr. Harris said he thought the Guild, the Society or both or the Pharmacy Board should determine whether an applicant for registration had sufficient knowledge of the language.

Mr. Harris said there should be a provision for compulsory membership of the Society or non-recognition by the Guild, and control could be established in that way.

Statistics Bureau.—Mr. Conolly referred to the surveys being sent out by the Statistics Bureau. These were most important and all Guild members were asked to fill in the questionnaires and return them as soon as possible.

No questions were asked concerning the questionnaires.

Closing Hours.—Mr. Conolly read a statement concerning the closing hours and gave information about an interview with Mr. Landa.

Mr. Hall said the Sydney press did not tell the true story concerning after-hours work.

Mr. Jerrems: "They never do."

Pricing of P.B. and P.M.S. Prescriptions.—The Secretary said that 300 persons had signified their agreement with the proposed Guild Pricing Bureau. The setting up of a Bureau presented a good many difficulties but the whole subject would be thoroughly investigated.

Mr. Glass inquired how many are getting their pricing done.

Mr. Conolly: "I could not say."

Mr. Moye suggested sending in prescriptions once per week in order to spread the load on the pricing staff.

Mr. Loch said that Mr. Butterfield suggested that the Government should do the pricing of prescriptions. He had discussed the matter with Mr. Fairbairn—80 or 90 prescriptions had been reprinted by the Department. If

they went through that way repricing scripts, why should the Government not price the lot?

Chemist-Only Policy.

Ipana Month and Akta-Vite Month.—Mr. Conolly said that the State Branch Committee had sponsored Ipana Month and Akta-Vite Month. He inquired if the meeting considered that these 'months' were a good idea.

The meeting expressed the opinion that the various 'months' were quite a good idea and no trouble had been experienced with overlapping between Ipana month and Akta-Vite month.

Article in "Country Trader."—In order to illustrate the pressure on chemist-only firms, Mr. Conolly read an article in the "Country Trader" concerning a demand upon Glaxo and Reckitt & Colman for Farex and Dettol to be distributed through grocers. Members present expressed their appreciation of the answer given to the Country Traders' Association by Reckitt & Colman.

The secretary said that Guild chemists should recognise the value to them of chemist-only lines; 1954 should be made a chemists'-only year.

Veterinary Dettol.—The secretary read to the meeting a letter received from Reckitt & Colman which guaranteed that veterinary Dettol would be chemist-only. The meeting discussed the matter at length and it was decided that congratulations should be sent to Mr. Smith and Mr. Feller for the arrangements they had made with Reckitt & Colman concerning veterinary Dettol.

Mr. Glass said it would be a good idea if Reckitt & Colman could have pamphlets printed to put in with accounts.

Concerning the size of the pack, half gallon and one gallon it was stated that the farmers seemed to prefer a small bottle. It was suggested that veterinary Dettol should be put up in a bottle of 16 oz.

Mr. Jerrems said the idea to get behind the veterinary business was quite sound. Veterinary Dettol provided the opportunity to show what chemists could do in the country.

Mr. Small said a lot of chemists were not veterinary minded. The margins were low generally, but with Phenozen drench, one chemist had made a substantial profit.

Mr. Jerrems said he thought the 16 oz. bottle was a good idea.

Mr. Loch: "A pint tin is better. You can carry it round the paddock."

Miss Farrer said at Henty she had very good sales of Penijec.

Mr. Moye referred to Chloromycetin for foot rot distributed by Parke, Davis & Co. It was going through stock and station agents. The matter should be taken up with the company of confining it to chemists.

Mr. Harris: "How do they sell it without a poisons licence?"

It was decided to inquire into the matter of the sale of antibiotics by stock and station agents and to take up with Parke, Davis & Co. the matter of distribution of Chloromycetin for foot rot.

P.D.L. Cover.—Mr. Hall then gave information concerning the types of insurance written by P.D.L.

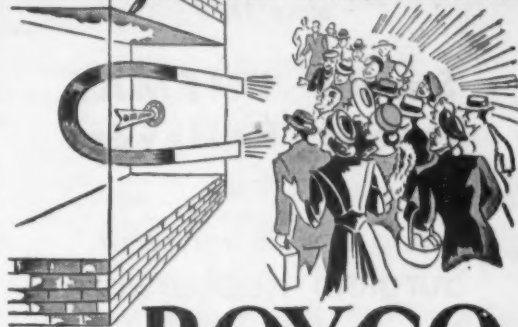
"Don't say it couldn't happen to me," Mr. Hall adjured the meeting. There were two types of policies—the chemist's indemnity insurance and public risk insurance. Mr. Hall gave full details of these two types of insurances.

Ray Lamp.—Mr. Hall said there was no cover from P.D.L. if someone was injured by a ray lamp supplied by a member. While it was thought by some that infra-red lamps were quite harmless, hospital opinion confounded that view. Infra-red lamps could be harmful. If a chemist sold or hired an infra-red lamp, he could become liable for damages. This was according to Mr. Ashburner's opinion.

Mr. Hall said, sell ray lamps only upon a doctor's prescription. If you hire them, you do so at your own risk.

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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

Mr. Small: "What about a doctor's prescription to hire?"

Mr. Hall: "The same applies."

First Aid by Chemists.—Mr. Hall suggested that members should make sure they did only first aid or referred the patient to a doctor or to the hospital. Be very careful in removing foreign bodies from the eyes.

[See legal opinion on this matter elsewhere in this issue.—Ed.]

In reply to a question, Mr. Hall said the chemist was covered by P.D.L. in this matter.

Mr. Small: "It must be pretty safe, then."

Marketing of Detergent.—Mr. Small asked if the Guild ever thought of marketing a detergent. To be referred to the Trade and Commerce Sub-Committee.

Proposed Merchandising Lecture.—Mr. Loch suggested the lecture be held in the spring, say, in October on a Sunday.

Messenger Boys' Pay.—Mr. Moyer inquired the position regarding a messenger boy's pay, etc. The Guild Service Bulletin, August, 1953, showed Shop Boy under 17 years of age, £3/2/11, whereas the officially printed award showed Shop Boys under 18 years of age £3/3/-. The query was which was correct.

The secretary said he would look into this matter.

Miss Farrer said she had sent in Repatriation repeat forms during the last three months but had not yet been paid. To be inquired into.

Mr. Loch asked the Vice-President, Mr. Glass, to move a vote of thanks to the visitors from Sydney.

Mr. Glass said it afforded him great pleasure to move a vote of thanks to the visitors for coming to Wagga to address the Zone members, who appreciated the country visits. Members had not realised the risks they ran with ray lamps and first aid treatment until they had heard Mr. Hall.

"Thank you for coming," concluded Mr. Glass.

Mr. Hall briefly responded and the meeting concluded at 4.30 p.m.

THE GUILD

**S.B.C.
Meeting**

The State Branch Committee of the New South Wales Branch of the Guild met at "Science House," Sydney, on April 8, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Mr. L. W. Smith (Chairman), Messrs. K. E. Thomas, R. W. Feller, R. K. Strang, R. S. Leece, W. G. Sapsford, O. C. V. Leggo, J. N. Young, C. D. Bradford and K. Jordan.

Closing Hours for Pharmacies.—The Chairman said members of the Committee had received a copy of the interview with the Minister, Mr. Landa, concerning trading hours for pharmacies. His main concern was for after-hours dispensing. He had a knowledge of one after-hours emergency scheme, but said that the public had no information about it. Subsequently, the Eastern Suburbs Pharmacists' Association had a meeting at Bondi and the President, Mr. Carrick, informed him that the Association was going to have a list of chemists printed for distribution to doctors. The list would show the chemists who would be available for emergency after-hours' service. It was also proposed to print details in the local newspaper for some months so that the public would have information on the scheme.

An Urgent Warning to All Guild Chemists Dispensing for Pensioners in N.S.W.—The Chairman said that the Federal President (Mr. Scott) had written on April 6 that the warning drafted by the State President fulfilled a very useful purpose and was timely. Public Relations would shortly issue a bulletin covering the position for the whole of Australia.

It was decided to publish the warning in next week's Guild Service Bulletin.

Country Visits.—Wagga Wagga, Sunday, April 4, and Albury, April 5.—The secretary reported briefly on the two zone meetings.

Next country visit, Gosford-Newcastle, May 1-2.—It was decided that Mr. Smith should go to Gosford and Newcastle.

Pharmacy Amendment Bill, 1954.—The secretary produced a copy of the Bill, which had passed both Houses of Parliament.

Mr. Feller suggested that aliens who were registered under the provisions of the Bill should be given a course in business ethics in Australia.

Mr. Leggo said that when the full-time pharmacy course came into operation the Guild should see the Minister concerning the matter of alien registration, etc.

Federal Delegate's Report.—No report at this juncture.

Reports of Sub-committees were dealt with as follows:

(a) **Trade and Commerce, Planning and Publicity.**—Meeting held March 29.

The secretary said that a report would be circulated in due course.

"Dettol" Veterinary Pack.—It was decided to contact Mr. Hanman, of Reckitt & Colman, asking him to supply country chemists with pamphlets for insertion with accounts sent out each month to customers.

"Allerban".—This was referred to the Trade and Commerce Sub-committee for attention.

(b) **Pricing Sub-committee.**—Mr. Thomas said a meeting would be held on April 14.

Mr. Thomas produced bottles showing the application of price coding stickers. The matter of the stickers was referred to the Trade and Commerce Sub-committee.

(c) **Dispensing Sub-committee.**

Agent's Commission.—Mr. Sapsford said he was working on an arrangement to get costings based on the time taken to attend to subscribers. A letter had been sent to Mr. Cade and to Mr. Miller on March 25 asking them if they would be prepared to send a representative to check the testing. No reply had yet been received.

(d) **Industrial and Early Closing.**

Settlement of Minutes—Chemists (State) Award.—Mr. Smith said that the minutes submitted by Mr. O'Dea were wrong. He had attended the settling of the minutes and had had them corrected.

The meeting terminated at 11.20 p.m.

VICTORIA

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State News

Members in Victoria desiring publication of personal items of interest are invited to write or telephone details to the Editor (FJ 5161).

Miss Carmel Younes left Melbourne in the "Himalaya" about the middle of April for an overseas trip.

Mr. M. G. D. Barr has purchased the pharmacy of Mr. V. G. Morieson, Jnr., at 627 Riversdale road, Wattle Park.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Moorhead will leave in the "Orsova" on May 8 for an eight-months' trip to the U.K. and Europe.

Mr. and Mrs. John Lumley left on the "Arcadia" on April 7 for an extended trip which will take in the U.K., Europe, and the U.S.A. Mrs. Lumley was formerly Miss M. O. Burrowes.

Birth: Mayhew (nee Peters). On March 14, at Margaret Coles Hospital, to Lois and Athol, a daughter—Marie Lois. Congratulations.

Birth.—On April 21 (the Queen's birthday), to Mr. and Mrs. Noel Thane, of Glen Iris, a son—William Noel. Congratulations!

MANAGERS AND RELIEVERS: APRIL LIST.

Manager or Reliever.

Miss V. Adamson, ..
P. McD. Ashley ..
W. Barber ..
Miss Bolger ..
Miss C. L. Blake ..
J. A. Buggy ..
Miss A. P. Doherty

Pharmacy.

B. Lloyd & Co., Geelong.
Dickins & Dickins, Geelong.
W. H. Wallace, Frankston.
E. C. McClelland, Port Melbourne.
J. B. Norton, Heathcote.
Lanes, Corowa, N.S.W.
A. J. Bach & Son, Essendon.
B. P. Dartnell, South Melbourne.
Miss N. Downton, Middle Brighton.

Miss S. Dean (Mrs. Johnson) ..
J. T. DeRavin ..
K. R. Hall ..

B. A. Brent, Belgrave.
H. S. Cope, Travancore.
R. E. P. John, Hawthorn.
R. P. Barnett, Shepparton.
T. J. Chambers, Murrumbidgee.
A. R. Bailey & Son, Malvern.
E. C. McClelland, Port Melbourne.
E. J. Dean, Red Cliffs.
K. E. Hartley, Warragul.
K. L. C. Davies, Maffra.
U.F.S. Dispensary, Clifton Hill.

J. Miller ..
Miss F. I. C. Morrison ..

Bradleys, Melbourne.
G. S. Flude, Elsternwick.
L. F. Howard, Brunswick.
H. W. Jones, St. Kilda.
J. M. Lang, Terang.
C. S. McKeon, Dandenong.
N. F. Keith, Ashburton.

B. D. O'Donnell ..

A. Shaw ..
F. H. P. Wheaton ..

Managers.—

Mr. N. Maller appointed manager for E. Beacham, Melbourne.

Mr. A. Hibberd appointed manager for P. Gee & Son, Brisbane, Queensland.

Mr. A. D. Munro appointed manager for W. B. Monteath, Drouin.

Mr. M. C. Rober's appointed manager for L. J. Premier, Yallourn.

Mr. G. W. Naismith appointed manager for E. D. Casper, Footscray.

Business Changes.

New pharmacies have been opened at the addresses indicated:

Mr. E. A. Lansdown, 399 Keilor Road, East Keilor.

Mr. D. R. Currie 106 Wheatsheaf Road, Glenroy.

Mr. J. F. Scown, 31a Vernon Street, South Kingsville.

Mr. D. Hornsby, Birregurra.

Mr. C. J. Mitchell has joined the staff of Gild's Pharmacy, Melbourne.

Mr. A. J. Bach is now trading as A. J. Bach & Son, 1077 Mt. Alexander Road, Essendon.

Miss J. Gibney is in charge of the pharmacy department of the Peter McCallum Clinic, Melbourne.

Mr. W. B. Monteath has purchased the pharmacy of the late G. R. Ramsay, Main Street Pakenham, Gippsland.

Mr. M. J. Whiffen has taken over the business previously conducted by Mr. F. R. Ryall at 287 Camberwell Road, Camberwell.

Mr. G. S. McNeill has bought Mr. G. B. Speirs' pharmacy at Binney Street, Euroa.

VICTORIA (Continued)

ANNUAL CHURCH SERVICES FOR CHEMISTS.

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society has announced that arrangements have been made for the holding of church services for members of the pharmaceutical profession on **Sunday, May 30, 1954**, as follows:

At St. Paul's Cathedral:

The service will be held at 11 a.m. The lessons will be read by two pharmaceutical representatives.

Members, together with their families and friends, are invited to join in this service and to assemble in the precincts of the Cathedral, and proceed at 10.45 a.m. to the section reserved for them.

At St. Patrick's Cathedral:

Mass will be celebrated at 8 a.m. by the Reverend Father D. O'Connor, S.J., Chaplain to the Catholic Pharmacists' Guild of Victoria.

It is the hope of the Council that a large number of members will come together to worship at these two services.

On this occasion members are asked to reply, indicating whether they will attend, so that an indication can be given to the Cathedral authorities of the space to be reserved.

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS.

The annual ceremony of Presentation of Diplomas to graduates of the College of Pharmacy will take place in the Union Theatre, Union House, University of Melbourne, at 8 p.m. on Monday, May 10, when an address will be delivered by the Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia, Sir Owen Dixon, K.C.M.G.

The graduates of the year 1953, their parents and former employers have been invited.

DEATH FROM LEAD POISONING.

A 3½-year-old girl had died from lead poisoning, the Coroner, Mr. Burke, was told in the Coroner's Court, Melbourne, on April 8.

Mr. Burke was inquiring into the death of Kathleen Bernadette Wallis, of Arthur Street, Eltham, who died at the Royal Children's Hospital on January 31.

Dr. Robert Jones said the child was admitted on January 29, suffering from lead poisoning. An examination indicated that the child had been taking the lead for several months. The mother of the child said she was a twin and was never very strong. She had a habit of licking her fingers and rubbing them against the wall. She would put metal objects in her mouth.

Mr. Burke recorded a finding of accidental death. He was unable to say from where the lead which caused the child's death had come.

OLD-ESTABLISHED PHARMACY AT EUROA CHANGES HANDS.

Mr. G. S. McNeill, of Corowa, has purchased the pharmacy which has been conducted by Mr. G. B. Speirs at Euroa for the past thirty years. In notifying the change-over Mr. Speirs wrote:

"This pharmacy has an interesting history since it has been established about 85 years: it was originally held by a doctor—am afraid the qualification of 'doctor' was obtained by very easy and questionable procedure.

"A 'Mr. Irvine' who was at one time in Bourke Street had some association with it and then in turn Mr. H. London—father of D. W. London, of Gardenvale; H. W. Potts, who later became the Principal of Hawkesbury College, Sydney; and Jas. Blackie, from whom I purchased the business in 1924. I have thus been in ownership for 30 years, and have developed the veterinary side of the business with various proprietaries for veterinary use."

NEW P.D.L. DIRECTOR.

Mr. Ian H. Barnes, of Hartwell, has been co-opted as a member of the Board of Directors of Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd. for the unexpired portion of the term



Mr. Ian H. Barnes.

(until November, 1955) for which the late A. L. W. Jones was elected. Mr. Barnes is one of the younger pharmacists, having qualified from the Victorian College of Pharmacy in September, 1938. In course of his war service during World War II, Mr. Barnes rose to the rank of captain, and he has retained the comradeship of those years as an active member of the R.S.L. Chemists Sub-Branch. On returning from war service, Mr. Barnes purchased a pharmacy at Sale. He sold that business late in 1947 when he transferred to his present pharmacy at 230 Toorak Road, Hartwell. In sport, Mr. Barnes takes a keen interest in golf and has been a regular participant in matches arranged by the Chemist Golfers' Club.

OBITUARY.

Alan Lambie Noye.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Alan Lambie Noye which occurred suddenly on April 19.

Mr. Noye qualified at the Victorian Final Examination in 1922 and at the time of his death was proprietor of pharmacies at Collins street and Bourke street, Melbourne, and at Burwood.

Mr. Noye is survived by a widow and one son, to whom we extend our sympathy.

Frederick Rex Tyler.

It is with regret that we report the death on April 26 of Mr. Frederick Rex Tyler.

Mr. Tyler qualified at the Victorian Final Examination in 1918, after having served an apprenticeship with his father, Frederick Robert Tyler, at Williamstown.

After qualifying Rex Tyler spent some time relieving, and then took over the pharmacy at Williamstown established by his father round about the beginning of this century. He has conducted this business ever since.

Mr. Tyler is survived by a widow, a son (Kenneth Rex, who qualified in 1946) and a daughter (Lesley, Mrs. Whitehead), to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

CRAYONS, PASTELS, PAINTS, ETC., CONTAINING POISONS.

New Regulations Under Poisons Acts.

The Victorian Government Gazette for April 14 contains a proclamation which amends the Poisons Regulations by specifying labelling to be used for paints, crayons, etc., containing lead or arsenic above certain proportions.

The Regulation reads as follows:

"After Regulation 18 of the Poisons Regulations 1930 insert the following Regulations:

18A. No person shall sell any finger colours, show-card colours or poster paints in liquid or powder form, crayons, school pastels and coloured chalks containing more than one-half of one per centum of lead or more than one-thirtieth of one per centum

VICTORIA (Continued)

of arsenic unless there is attached thereto or to the packet containing the same the words 'unfit for use by children' in addition to any other words required by these Regulations."

In the same issue of the Gazette is published a proclamation extending the operation of the Fourth Schedule to the Poisons Act 1928 to include finger colours, showcard colours or poster paints in liquid or powder form, containing lead or arsenic within the limits stated, as well as crayons, school pastels and coloured chalks.

MEDICINES AT MENTAL INSTITUTIONS.

The annual report of the Mental Hygiene Authority for the year ended June 30, 1953, discloses that 2219 patients were admitted to the Receiving Houses at Royal Park and Ballarat, and 1137 were sent on to Mental Hospitals. Besides these 1137 admissions from the Receiving Houses to Mental Hospitals, 407 patients were admitted directly, making a total number of 2626 admissions.

60.6 per cent. of the males and 26 per cent. of the females were aged 65 and over.

Only 484 of the 2219 admissions to the Receiving Houses were voluntary boarders.

Under the heading "Treatment" it is stated that more patients were actively treated than before. Insulin therapy recommenced in most hospitals during the year. Electrical treatment was carried out generally as was necessary. A number of patients were transferred to the teaching hospitals for leucotomy operations. Modifications to the treatment hospital at Mont Park allowed a new surgical unit to be incorporated which will contain modern X-ray equipment and full facilities for neurosurgery with an eight-channel electroencephalograph and wave analyser.

During the year expenditure on medicines increased by approximately £6000, due mainly to the fact that there was a marked extension in positive medical treatment in the hospitals throughout the State, involving the purchase of new drugs.

The average cost per patient for medicines and stimulants increased from 3/3 in 1948 to 6/9½ in 1953. The total cost of medicines, medical comforts etc., for the seven institutions listed was £29,757.

DISCUSSION GROUP.

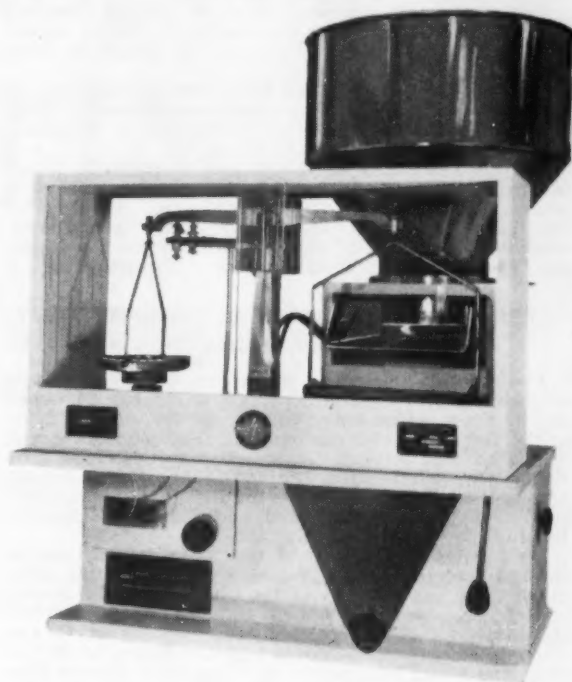
A very successful meeting was held at the College on April 7, when Mr. G. K. Treleaven, F.P.S., was guest speaker. His subject was "Some Recent Drugs," and he gave a comprehensive outline of the latest drugs as well as significant points regarding their dispensing and drug regulations. In addition the speaker also conveyed first-hand news of many lines shortly to appear on the Australian market.

Among the drugs mentioned were methylpentynol, a new non-barbiturate hypnotic; gamma globulin; N.P.H. (Isophane) Insulin; Insulin Zinc Suspensions (semilente, lente and ultralente); new anti-hypertensive drugs; oral anti-coagulants; anti-cholinergic drugs; pentamethyl tetranitrate, a new coronary vasodilator with a longer action than glyceryl trinitrate.

Other drugs discussed were the new anti-epileptics, including Primidone (Mysoline), which has just been made a pharmaceutical benefit. Piperazine preparations for threadworms; in this connection the speaker warned that piperazine although very effective could be quite toxic, and the recommended dose of the manufacturers should never be exceeded.

Another drug mentioned was Chlorpromazine HCl (Largactil) which has a specific anti-emetic action and also has therapeutic possibilities in anaesthesia and psychiatry, etc.

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Extremely simple design: no motor, no agitator, no rotating parts at all. Uninterrupted flow of material: no mechanical shutting off of the material, and therefore no crushing of or damage to the article weighed; no clogging.

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VICTORIA (Continued)

Among the new antibiotics discussed was Tetracycline, which is closely related to Aureomycin and Terramycin. Tetracycline is also known as Achromycin and Tetracyn, and will be available in Australia shortly.

The speaker concluded by saying that new drugs were appearing at an ever-increasing rate, so much so that it was becoming essential for chemists to keep pace with new developments. The Discussion Group meetings were designed to keep chemists abreast of the latest advances in their profession.

During the talk a number of those present joined in the discussion, and at the conclusion Mr. Oxley moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Treleven on behalf of those present.

The next meeting of the Discussion Group will be held at the College of Pharmacy on Wednesday, May 12, when Mr. H. A. Braithwaite will lead a discussion on "Dangerous and Specified Drugs."

As this subject is of the utmost importance to all practising pharmacists and apprentices, everyone who wishes to attend will be most welcome. Meetings of this Discussion Group are now held on the second Wednesday of each month, and topics listed for the future are "Photography," "First Aid" and "Cosmetics."

THE SOCIETY OF HOSPITAL PHARMACISTS.

Victoria Division.

The monthly lecture of the above Society was held at the Royal Melbourne Hospital on March 24, when Dr. J. Frew addressed members on the use of drugs in the treatment of hypertension. The mode of action of the various modern treatments was described, providing a most useful background of knowledge for our handling of these constantly-used drugs. Supper was served by the pharmacy staff of the Royal Melbourne Hospital.

On April 1 the Council of the above Society met in the board room of the Royal Melbourne Hospital, when much time was devoted to the planning of the annual conference which will be held this year at the Fairfield Hospital on Saturday, May 8, commencing at 11 a.m. The conference will be opened by the Mayor of Heidelberg, the Chief Pharmacist of Mont Park Mental Hospital, Mr. F. J. Boyd. The Chairman of the Hospitals and Charities Commission (Dr. J. H. Lindell) and the Dean of the College of Pharmacy, Mr. A. T. S. Sissons, will deliver the opening addresses. As these are expected to be thought provoking and stimulating, time will be given to their discussion in the early part of the afternoon session of the conference, beginning at 2 p.m.

Recommendations asked for by the Pharmacy Board on suitable regulations for the control of specified drugs in hospitals will be discussed; reports of the Education Committee will be received; and other matters referred by the 1953 Conference to Council will be reported on and debated. Country delegates will present their views and problems, and a paper on new drugs will be read.

The Matron and Management of Fairfield Hospital are very kindly providing lunch and tea.

Commencing at 7 p.m., the Society will hold its annual meeting and election of office-bearers, after which there will be a short programme of entertainment.

These conferences have always been most stimulating and successful, and it is hoped there will be a large attendance of members.

A lecture by Professor Townsend at the Women's Hospital on April 21 and a meeting of members of the Council on April 29 completed a busy year's programme.

SIGMA. CO. LTD. TO CONDUCT FURTHER SERIES OF MERCHANDISING LECTURES.

Encouraged by the success of the course of merchandising lectures conducted during 1953, Sigma Co. Ltd. has decided to conduct a more extensive series this year. In a circular which has been issued it is stated that the 1954 course will cover a broader aspect and meet pharmacy problems of today.

It is planned to hold a series of short, conference-type courses. Attendances for each course will be limited so that all attending may derive maximum benefits. Each series will be repeated.

The conferences will be held at the new Sigma building, 589 Collins street, Melbourne, commencing at 8 p.m. on the dates indicated. The following is the syllabus for 1954:

PERSONAL SALESMANSHIP.—Five conferences, led by Mr. Frank Mitchell, and one film session. Fee, £3/13/6.

A.—Monday, April 26; May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31.

B.—Thursday, June 3, 10, 17, 24; July 1, 8.

This course is suitable for all pharmacy staff who have not attended past courses.

ADVANCED MERCHANDISING.—Five conferences, led by Mr. Frank Mitchell. This course is suitable for owners and managers. Fee, £3/3/-.

C.—Tuesday, April 27; May 4, 11, 18, 25.

D.—Wednesday, July 7, 14, 21, 28; August 4.

TRAINING AND SUPERVISING EMPLOYEES.—Five conferences, led by Mr. E. G. Brightford. This is suitable for owners and managers. Fee, £3/3/-.

E.—Wednesday, April 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19.

F.—Tuesday, July 6, 13, 20, 27; August 3.

LAYOUT—COLOUR AND LIGHTING.—Five lectures by leading experts. Fee, £3/3/-.

G.—Tuesday, June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.

H.—Thursday, July 22, 29; August 5, 12, 19.

BRAINS TRUST ON PHARMACY BUYING AND FINANCE PROBLEMS. Fee, £1/11/6.

I.—Monday, June 7, 14, 21.

K.—Thursday, September 2, 9, 16.

Further information is obtainable from Mr. E. G. Brightford, Course Controller, c/o Sigma Co. Ltd. (MU6521).

AUSTRALIAN CHEMISTS' GOLF ASSOCIATION

Fifth Annual Interstate Meeting.

Melbourne, March 12 to 20, 1954.

Victorian Chemists' Golfers Club staged a wonderful week of entertainment and golf matches for the 32 visitors from New South Wales.

Full entertainment pressure was applied by President E. Beacham and his executive in making this week memorable, and it was thoroughly enjoyed.

The visitors arrived from Sydney on the "Kanimbla" on Sunday afternoon, March 14, and having viewed the decorations for the recent visit of H.M. the Queen, were taken to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. E. Beacham at South Yarra, where visitors and friends were entertained to a buffet tea. The President extended a hearty welcome to the visitors. When formally declaring the week open, he trusted that all would have a very enjoyable time.

Programme.

Monday, March 15, at Commonwealth: A four-ball competition was played.

Tuesday, March 16, at Royal Melbourne: A similar match, where the championship was also played. This was retained by Laurie Skinner, N.S.W., he having won the 1953 championship in Sydney.

Wednesday, March 17: A scenic drive to the Dandenongs, thence through Dandenong to Frankston, occupied the morning. Afternoon saw another match staged at Peninsula Golf Links, with dinner following.

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NOVO LENTE Insulin Zinc Suspension	40 80	Mauve/Blue Mauve/Green
NOVO ULTRALENTE Insulin Zinc Suspension (Crystalline)	40	Brilliant Yellow/Blue

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pyridoxine hcl.	0.125 mg.
caffeine	1 gr.
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ferrous sulphate	1½ gr.
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VICTORIA (Continued)

Thursday, March 18, was a day of individual entertainment.

Friday, March 19, saw the close of the week's golf with a four-baller and the teams' match to decide the Sam Fripp Memorial Cup held by New South Wales Chemists' Golf Club. This was keenly contested and New South Wales retained the cup by five matches to two. The margin of some of the matches was very narrow and luck either way was the deciding factor. We congratulate New South Wales on their victory.

The weather throughout the week was that clear, warm autumn weather so enjoyable in Melbourne. Although dry, most of the courses were in good condition. Doubtless they would have been much greener had they not been thrown back by the rigid water restrictions of the summer, yet all courses played remarkably well, though fast.

We wish to thank all the clubs on whose courses we played, for their hospitality.

On Tuesday night Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Ansell entertained the players and visitors to a buffet tea at their home at Canterbury.

On Thursday night Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Henshall repeated the same entertainment at their home at East St. Kilda. At both these parties Mr. Lloyd Ansell provided a splendid moving picture interlude of views taken by him on the Continent. On the Thursday night, movies of incidents during Monday's play at Commonwealth were shown. All of these were greatly enjoyed and appreciated.

The home entertainment of our visitors was on a scale so lavish, hospitable and friendly, that it was received

with high approval by all guests of Golf Week, and our best thanks go to our marvellous hosts.

Friday, March 19, was the final day for golf matches. Another four-ball was played, and the teams match for the coveted Sam Fripp Memorial was contested keenly. New South Wales won by five matches to two.

Dinner and presentation of prizes in the spacious banqueting hall of the Victoria Golf Club brought the visit to a close. During the course of the evening, with the newly elected president of the Association (E. Beacham) in the chair, many toasts were proposed and honoured, 80 members participating at the festive board.

In a pleasing reply to the toast of his health, the President thanked those present for their good wishes for the coming year. His pleasure at such an array of interstate visitors was intense and he looked forward to a most enjoyable and useful year of office, with friendship and comradeship increasing amongst chemists. He congratulated the New South Wales team on holding the Sam Fripp Cup and assured them that Victoria would be all out to wrest it from them in 1955.

During the evening the Hon. Secretary of the Victorian Chemists' Golfers Club, R. W. Brodrick, was presented with a leather golf bag as a mark of esteem and appreciation by the N.S.W. visitors.

The presentation of prizes and trophies was then proceeded with, Mr. Weir, President of New South Wales Chemists' Golf Club, officiating.

Results.

Teams Match—Sam Fripp Memorial Cup:

Laurie Skinner (N.S.W.) defeated N. J. S. Turnbull (Vic.), Capt.

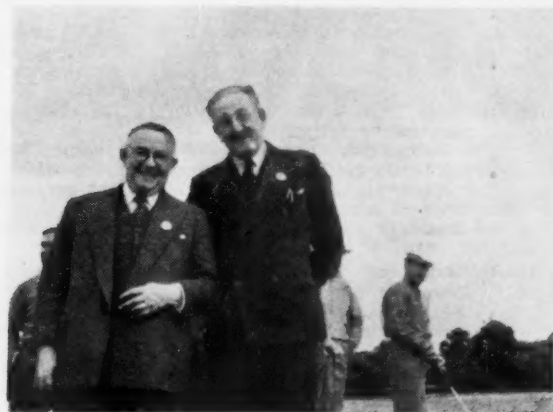
Hymie Eizenberg (N.S.W.) defeated F. R. Kolbe (Vic.).

W. Roarke (N.S.W.), Capt., lost to Monty Ross (Vic.).

W. Timmony (N.S.W.) defeated Geo. Fawz (Vic.).



H. Henshall (Vic.) and Cliff Gostelow W. Cornell (Vic.) and J. Cohen (N.S.W.), Monty Ross (Vic.) and Warwick Rourke (N.S.W.), Capt.



W. Pineris (N.S.W.) and R. W. Brodrick (Vic.).



E. Beacham waves farewell to departing N.S.W. team.

VICTORIA (Continued)

J. Cohen (N.S.W.) defeated W. Cornell (Vic.).
W. Northam (N.S.W.) lost to A. Hallett (Vic.).
Cliff Gostelow (N.S.W.) defeated H. C. Henshall (Vic.).

Championship (Interstate): Won by Laurie Skinner.

Four-ball Best Ball Stableford (Commonwealth):

Winners: W. Rourke and E. Collis.
Runners-up: F. Montegano and Rupert Frew.
Best N.S.W. Card: H. Eizenberg.
Best Vic. Card: E. Beacham.

Four-ball Best Ball Stableford (Royal Melbourne):

Winners: W. Alcock and Stan Palfreyman (on count back).
Runners-up: Noel Teggie and Noel Leggat.
Best N.S.W. Card: Alan Hughes.
Best Vic. Card: Peter Grimwade.
Special Prize: Roy Turner (Vic.).

Four-ball Best Ball Stableford (Peninsula):

Winners: E. Beacham and Arthur Bailey.
Runners-up: Merle McCallum and Harvey Wastel.
Best N.S.W. Card: Reg Rowley.
Best Vic. Card: J. E. Coates on count back from T. Ready.

Four-ball Best Ball Stableford (Victoria):

Winners: Noel Leggett and Mat Bennett.
Runners-up: Paul Schneider and John Pollock.
Best N.S.W. Card: Alan Weir.
Best Vic. Card: John Schaffer.

PHARMACY BOARD

Monthly Meeting

The meeting of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria adjourned from March 10 was held on March 24 at 10.15 a.m.

Present.—Mr. H. A. Braithwaite (President), Messrs. S. J. Baird, A. W. Callister, R. W. Iliffe, A. W. McGibbony, W. Wishart, and the Registrar.

Correspondence.—The following correspondence was dealt with:—

To an apprentice, advising that time served in R.A.A.F. establishment as part of National Service Training cannot be counted as part of apprenticeship.

From Commonwealth and Dominion Agencies requesting exemption of "Digestif Rennies" from application of Potent Drugs Schedule. It was pointed out that the amount of the drug referred to present in the preparation was approximately 1/250th of an effective dose. The President said he thought the quantity was so small that it could be reasonably considered to be uncontrolled so far as the Potent Drugs Schedule was concerned, and that probably in law the maxim "de minimus non curat lex" would apply. It was agreed that a reply be sent intimating that the Board had under consideration a proposal to amend the Schedule so as to exempt preparations of such nature.

From a veterinary practitioner inquiring if it was necessary for him to hold a licence to cover all veterinary medicines. Advised that a licence was necessary.

From Ballarat chemists submitting the following resolution:—

"The chemists of Ballarat, viewing with alarm unethical tendencies in advertising in their District, with its subsequent detrimental effect on professional standards, recommend that the Board give early consideration to the drawing up of a Code of Ethics for Pharmacy, and the provision of adequate disciplinary powers to see that such a Code be strictly observed."

After some discussion it was decided that the opinion of the Pharmaceutical Society and the Victorian Branch of the Guild on the subject be obtained.

Erasure of Names from Register.—The Registrar tabled a list of names of chemists who had not renewed registration for the year 1954, and intimated that the Minister of Health had given approval for the erasure of these names from the Pharmaceutical Register of Victoria. So far as he was aware, none of the persons concerned was in active practice. The Board directed that the names be erased from the Register.

Board Finances.—The Board went into Committee for the purpose of considering the financial position arising from a report of the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Wishart, that for the year ended December 31, 1953, expenditure exceeded income by about £750. A number of suggestions for remedying this position were discussed.

At 12.50 p.m. the Board adjourned for lunch, and at 2.15 p.m. proceeded with the adjourned inquiry re L. G. Knapman.

APRIL MEETING OF THE BOARD.

The Pharmacy Board of Victoria met at 360 Swanston Street, Melbourne, on April 14, at 10.15 a.m.

Present.—Mr. H. A. Braithwaite (President), Messrs. S. J. Baird, A. W. Callister, W. R. Iliffe, N. C. Manning, A. W. McGibbony, W. Wishart, and the Registrar.

Correspondence.—The correspondence submitted included the following:

To the Victorian office of the Guild, conveying information that English nomenclature should be used in price lists.

From a country apprentice, drawing attention to mistake in date of commencement of apprenticeship as shown in indenture and requesting alteration. Request approved.

From the Pharmacy Board of Queensland, asking for copies of Final Examination Dispensing papers. The Registrar said that copies had been made from file and had been forwarded.

The President read a letter from the State Branch Committee of the Guild stating it was not satisfied with reply from the Board concerning preparation of a list of lines showing classification under Poisons Schedules. The President read the reply in which he expressed surprise at the letter which he considered quite satisfactory. He further intimated that he had offered personally to co-operate with Guild district representatives in preparation of the list and had already had one or two discussions with the legal representatives.

To an apprentice in a New South Wales town, returning apprenticeship indenture with intimation that Victorian Board cannot register an apprenticeship entered into outside of the State.

To Mr. A. J. Cobcroft, conveying decision as to practical training and other requirements necessary to enable him to proceed to registration as a pharmaceutical chemist. Letter of thanks received from Mr. Cobcroft, who indicated his intention of proceeding with the programme outlined.

From a pharmacist, submitting specimen ruling for a Dangerous Drugs card system of recording, for which he sought approval. It was resolved that the request for acceptance of a card system be not granted.

Formal Business.—The following formal business was transacted:

Applications for Registration.—Laurel Florence Mineall, John Norman Barcham, Kevin Neils Broberg, Mary Lorraine Evans, Zane Joseph Golding, Victor Gross, Kenneth Russell Hall, Christine Alice Humphreys, Nathan Maller, Clifford Stanley Matthews, Graham William Naismith, John Napoli, Geoffrey Raymond Ponsford, William Swedosh, John Francis White, Pamela Anne Perry, Iris Rae Thompson, Harry Wavsmann, Patrick Thomas McNamara, Mordecai Halprin, Donald Robert Horsfield, Keith Robert John Brooks, George

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VICTORIA (Continued)

Anthony Copeland, Nola Elsie Revill, Marion Joan Smith, John Edward Delzoppo, John William Weir, William Noel Grigg (Final Exam., Vic.), Joan Mary Brooks (Cert. Ph. Soc. Gt. Brit.), Muriel Florence Stott (Cert. Ph. Bd. N.Z.).

Restoration of Name to Register.—Patricia Nellie May Cappi (Mrs. L. A. Ireland).

Managers and Relievers Notified.—63.

New Businesses Opened.—6.

Business Changes Notified.—4.

Apprenticeship Indentures Registered.—46.

Apprenticeship Indentures Suspended.—2.

Apprenticeship Indentures Transferred.—6.

Apprenticeship Indentures Cancelled.—2.

Opium Permits Issued.—10.

Certificates of Exemption Issued.—46.

Certificates of Identity Issued.—9.

Permits to Purchase Cyanide Issued.—2.

Licences as General Dealers in Poisons Issued.—6.

Licences to Sell Poisonous Substances Issued.—29.

Police Reports re Poisonings.—2 Arsenic—fatal.

Inspector's Reports, Inquiries Etc.

Wholesale Sale of Dangerous Drugs.—A report was received from Inspector Ahern concerning sales of dangerous and specified drugs by a wholesale distributor. Various irregularities were disclosed in the form of orders received and other matters, and it was resolved that a stern warning be issued.

Unauthorised Possession of Dangerous Drugs.—An inquiry had been undertaken by Inspector Ahern in conjunction with the police. It was found that specified drugs were in possession of an unauthorised person. Inquiries were proceeding and a further report would be submitted.

A number of routine reports from Inspector Ahern were received and perused.

Poisons Schedules Advisory Panel.—The Board proceeded to consideration of the recommendations of the meeting of the Poisons Schedules Advisory Panel held on April 5, 1954, and resolved that immediate action be taken in regard to a number of the recommendations which had been put forward.

It was resolved that other suggestions not dealt with be considered at a special meeting of the Board to be held on the evening of May 5.

Poisons Act—Proposals for Revision.—A memorandum submitted by Messrs. Callister and McGibbon proposing certain ideas for revision of the Poisons Acts and the Schedules was received and discussed in a preliminary manner.

Members of the Board expressed the opinion that many sound proposals were incorporated and expressed appreciation of the work which had been devoted to the preparation of the report. It was resolved that detailed consideration be given to the various suggestions.

Pharmacy at Sanitarium.—The President reported that the manager and pharmaceutical chemist at the Warburton Sanitarium and Hospital had interviewed him and the Registrar during the month. The requirements and limitations under the Poisons Act and Medical Act Part III had been plainly stated and explained, and an undertaking given that the requirements would be carried out. It was pointed out that service could not legally extend beyond patients of the hospital. Since the interview, an undertaking given by the manager that an announcement clarifying the position would be published in the local newspaper had been honoured. The President's report was received.

March Final Examination.—It was resolved on the motion of Mr. Iliffe that the President's action in publishing the March Final Examination results after the conference of examiners be confirmed and that the report of the examiners be formally adopted.

Financial.—The Honorary Treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement, and accounts totalling £666/12/4 were passed for payment.

The meeting terminated at 1.45 p.m.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria met at 360 Swanston Street Melbourne, on April 7, at 9.40 a.m.

Present.—Mr. E. Scott (Vice-President), in the chair; Mrs. P. A. Crawford, Messrs. S. J. Baird, A. G. Davis, L. A. Hamon, A. L. Hull, F. W. Johnson, L. Long, V. G. Morieson, C. P. A. Taylor, G. H. Williams, F. C. Kent (Secretary), and T. G. Allen (minutes secretary).

Leave of Absence—President.—An application for leave of absence during his visit overseas was received from the President, Mr. I. J. Thompson, and was granted.

College Rebuilding.—In reply to a question by Mr. Long, the Vice-President intimated that there was nothing further to report concerning the verbal statement of the Premier that funds would be made available for building a new College of Pharmacy at Parkville. The Premier (Mr. Cain) was about to leave for New Zealand and the Executive proposed to seek a further interview with him as soon as it could be arranged, so that definite details of the Government's proposals might be obtained.

Election of President.—Mr. Scott intimated that the next business was the election of President and the Secretary took the chair for the purpose of receiving nominations.

Mr. Scott said he had pleasure in nominating the retiring President, Mr. I. J. Thompson, as President for the ensuing year. Mr. C. P. A. Taylor seconded the nomination, and there being no further nominations the Secretary declared Mr. Thompson duly elected as President for the ensuing year.

Vice-President.—Mr. Davis nominated Mr. E. Scott for re-election as Vice-President. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Morieson. There being no further nominations, Mr. Scott was declared re-elected and thereupon resumed the chair.

Honorary Treasurer.—Mr. S. J. Baird was re-elected Honorary Treasurer on the motion of Mr. Williams.

Honorary Librarian.—Mrs. P. A. Crawford was re-elected as Honorary Librarian on the motion of Mr. A. G. Davis.

Appointment of Committees.—The following committees were appointed for the ensuing year—

Education Committee.—Mr. I. J. Thompson, Mrs. P. A. Crawford, Messrs. A. G. Davis, A. L. Hull, F. W. Johnson, L. Long and G. H. Williams.

Finance Committee.—Messrs. S. J. Baird, A. G. Davis and E. Scott.

Hospital Dispensing Committee.—Messrs. E. C. McClelland, S. J. Baird, G. L. Belleville, L. Long, R. B. Lumley, W. R. Iliffe, and F. N. Lee.

Publicity Committee.—The President, the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Crawford, Messrs. A. G. Davis, F. W. Johnson, E. Scott, and the Secretary.

A.P.F. Revision Committee.—Dr. Byron L. Stanton, Miss E. M. Witt, Messrs. P. Berry, S. J. Baird, H. A. Braithwaite, A. W. Callister, R. I. Hamilton, A. L. Hull, F. W. Johnson, C. B. Macgibbon, N. C. Manning, E. E. Nye, H. Rockman, W. J. Grainger and B. C. Hornby.

Year Book Committee.—Mr. V. G. Morieson, Mrs. P. A. Crawford, Miss E. M. Witt, Messrs. A. G. Davis, A. L. Hull, L. Long, E. E. Nye and G. H. Williams.

Building Committee.—Messrs. S. J. Baird, A. G. Davis, L. A. Hamon, E. Scott, C. P. A. Taylor, I. J. Thompson and A. T. S. Sissons.

Social Committee.—Mrs. P. A. Crawford, Messrs. A. L. Hull, F. W. Johnson, L. Long.

VICTORIA (Continued)

A.P.F. Management Committee.—Messrs. F. W. Johnson, A. W. Callister, R. I. Hamilton and A. L. Hull.

Committee of Ethics.—Mrs. P. A. Crawford, Messrs. F. W. Johnson and L. Long.

Selection Committee.—Mrs. P. A. Crawford, Messrs. H. A. Braithwaite, A. G. Davis, A. T. S. Sissons, and the Secretary.

Tripartite Committee.—In view of the fact that this committee was elected for a special purpose which had now passed, for the time being it was resolved that the committee be allowed to lapse.

Liaison Committee.—The President and Mr. V. G. Morieson. Substitute representatives—the Vice-President (to deputise for the President) and Mr. L. Long (to deputise for Mr. V. G. Morieson).

Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies.—In view of the fact that Victoria had withdrawn from the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies, representatives to that body were not nominated.

Correspondence.—The correspondence submitted included the following:

To the Society of Hospital Pharmacists, seeking further information regarding their request for representation on the Education Committee of the Society.

To Messrs. H. A. Braithwaite and N. C. Manning, thanking them for gifts of apparatus.

From Mr. A. B. W. Aumont, a former member of the Council and member of many years' standing, inquiring if he might be transferred to the Life Members' list. It was unanimously resolved that Mr. Aumont be made an honorary Life Member.

To the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, advising departure of Mr. and Mrs. I. J. Thompson and intimating that they would attend the British Pharmaceutical Conference in September, 1954.

From Mr. E. B. Davies, Victorian Guild, requesting Society to nominate two members to meet Guild sub-committee on question of drug nomenclature in new price list. Acting President said he thought Messrs. Hull and Johnson had acted on this committee at his suggestion.

From a country chemist, drawing attention to wording on AMCAL folder which he suggested was contrary to the Society's resolution concerning professional advertising. Mr. V. G. Morieson said that the words complained of had been omitted from all articles distributed by AMCAL and that after present stocks had been exhausted there would be no further issue. It was resolved that the member be advised accordingly.

To the Superintendent of Telephones, endorsing applications of members for installations.

From the Victorian Branch of the Guild, forwarding letter drawing attention to announcement in a pharmacy window bearing the words: "This chemist has been approved to supply Pharmaceutical Benefits."

Members of the Council examined a copy of the announcement and resolved that no serious objection could be taken to it.

Nicholas Bursary.—A nomination was received from the Dean that Mr. R. Myerscough be awarded the Nicholas Bursary for a Fourth Year student of 1953 proceeding to the Fellowship Course. Mr. Myerscough had been the recipient of a Galen Scholarship. It was resolved that the recommendation be adopted and that the trustees of the Galen Scholarship fund be notified.

Election of New Members.—The following new members were balloted for and elected:

Full Members (New).—Donald Raymond Currie, Emily May Gosbell, Florence Gwendolyn Hattam, William Gerald Murray, Kenneth Allan Wanden, Graham William Naismith.

Full Members (Transfer from Apprentice Member).—Joseph Sylvester Leaman, Frederick John Parkes,

Zane Joseph Golding, Kenneth Russell Hall, Nathan Maller, Geoffrey R. Ponsford, William Swedosh.

Apprentice Members.—Desmond Garfield Ball, Anne Bartholomaeus, Bryan Arthur Bennett, Nabi Buksh, Rona Burns, Margaret Anne Conway, Margaret Joan Coombe, Theodoros Cominos, Harold Henry Thomas Creswell, John Aelred Daniel, Robert Paul Davies, Robin Winifred Dillow, Michael John Favaloro, Irene Rebecca Fink, Kevin Michael Fitzsimon, James Francis Gehring, Janette Joy Gourlay, Leon Hain, Deidre Jeanette Hiatt, Nancy Winifred Hindson, Lloyd Vivian Hocking, Mona Jodell, Alan Gardner Kerr, Patricia Lawrenson, Helen McGregor Lester, Elliott Lindell, Barbara Janet Lockhead, Helen Marion McLean, Amalia Emma Marcoccio, Judith Ann Marshall, Daniel Maurice Miller, Ian Linton Mills, Donald Charles Nash, Janet Nickell, Barbara Joyce Nixon, Ian H. Pitman, Dorothy Kathleen Rea, Catherine Josephine Rissman, Kenneth John Rosengarten, John Macpherson Ross, Robert John Ross, Ronald Winston Shaw, Sydney Shenker, Arthur Sibel, Peter Donald Simmons, Wallace George Smith, Ian Maxwell Stuart, David John Stynes, Graeme William Thompson, Norman James Henman Wardle, Ian Geoffrey Watson, George Graeme Weidman, Philip Ernest Williamson, John Gray Bohn, Russell Stuart Callister, Joseph T. W. Choo, Byron Guthrie, Donald Arthur Harris, Kok Chaing Khoo, Antonino Salvatore Pisasale, Edward Ian Taylor, John Kingsley Waring, Jack Yow Fook Wong.

A.P.F.—Mr. F. W. Johnson, chairman of the A.P.F. Management Committee, intimated that the committee would meet on April 14 to plan work for the coming 12 months. One of the important matters for discussion was publication of the list of B.P. drugs with doses and therapeutic notes compiled by Mr. Hull. Some discussion on this matter took place with Dr. Stanton who had expressed himself favourably in regard to the proposition.

Year Book 1954.—Mr. V. G. Morieson reported that a meeting of the Year Book Committee took place on March 17. He said that all material for the Year Book was now in the printer's hands.

Because of an earlier ruling of the Council that no expense was to be incurred in the production and posting of the Year Book, the committee was somewhat hampered and not in a position to publish very much beyond formal reports, lists of members, etc. It had been possible, however, to retain the Buyers' Guide showing classification of the items under Poisons Schedules—a feature which appeared to be greatly appreciated by the membership generally.

Mr. Morieson said the committee made two recommendations—(1) that the earlier recommendation regarding cost be rescinded, and (2) that April 1 be set as the latest date for publication each year.

The report was received and it was resolved that the recommendations of the committee be adopted.

Arising from the report of the Year Book Committee some discussion took place as to whether copies of the Annual Report and Financial Statements should be published separately, and it was resolved that "provided the Year Book can be published before the annual meeting in time for distribution to members and include the Annual Report and Financial Statement for the preceding year separate publication of the report and statement will not be required."

Lectures in Forensic Pharmacy.—The chairman said that it had been resolved at the previous meeting that inquiries be pursued in relation to the appointment of a barrister at law to prepare and deliver each year a series of lectures on Forensic Pharmacy to Fourth Year students.

During the month after consultation with the Executive, the Secretary had discussed the proposition with Mr. W. O. Harris, who was considering the matter and had intimated that he was interested in the proposal. Action in relation to the making of an appointment was left in the hands of the Executive.

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VICTORIA (Continued)

St. Arnaud Hospital.—The Secretary said that Mr. F. N. Lee, President of the Guild, had received a letter from St. Arnaud chemists, intimating that following the recent visit by representatives of the Hospital Dispensing Committee of the Guild and the Society, entirely satisfactory arrangements had been entered into with the committee of the St. Arnaud Hospital.

Remit from Ballarat Chemists.—The following resolution submitted by Ballarat chemists was considered by the Council:

"The chemists of Ballarat, viewing with alarm unethical tendencies in advertising in their district with its subsequent detrimental effect on professional standards, recommend that the Council give early consideration to the drawing up of a Code of Ethics for Pharmacy and the provision of adequate disciplinary powers to see that such a code be strictly observed."

Mr. Taylor said unfortunately he was absent from the meeting at which the resolution was passed. He had no information concerning the circumstances which promoted it.

Mr. Long suggested the setting up of a Law Committee to consider such matters.

The Acting-President suggested that such a matter was essentially one for the Ethics Committee of the Council.

Mr. Morieson moved that the matter be referred to the Ethics Committee with a specific recommendation that it study the Code of Ethics already approved by the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia.

Mrs. Crawford said she would like each member of the Ethics Committee to receive a copy of the Code of Ethics so that they might study it afresh.

The Secretary said the Pharmacy Board had received a similar communication from the Ballarat chemists and had decided to invite the opinion of the Council and the State Branch Committee of the Guild in regard to it.

The motion that the matter be referred to the Ethics Committee was carried.

Presentation of Diplomas.—The Acting-President said that this ceremony had been fixed for May 10. Unfortunately, he would be in Western Australia and would be unable to attend—a fact which he greatly regretted.

Mrs. Crawford inquired whether the Social Committee and Publicity Committee might help in the arrangements. The Secretary said he thought the help that could be rendered by these committees would be of great value.

Church Services.—The Secretary reported that advice had been received from the Catholic Pharmacists' Guild that arrangements had been made for a mass to be conducted at St. Patrick's Cathedral at 8 a.m. on Sunday, May 30, the date on which tentative arrangements had been made for a service at St. Paul's Cathedral.

Details of the proposed arrangements were reported to the Council and were approved.

Financial.—The Honorary Treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement, and accounts totalling £3196/4/2 were passed for payment.

Portrait of the Queen.—The Secretary drew attention to a large framed photograph of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, presented by Mrs. Crawford.

Members of the Council expressed their thanks to Mrs. Crawford for this most acceptable gift and intimated that it was most appropriate to the furnishings of the Council Chamber.

Discussion Group.—Mr. Johnson reported that the Discussion Group was continuing to do excellent work and on April 7 would have as guest speaker Mr. G. K. Treleven.

Quarterly Meetings.—Mr. Long advocated that the Society return to holding quarterly meetings with out-

side guest speakers. He expressed the opinion that these meetings had in the past attracted good audiences and were appreciated by a considerable section of the membership. Mr. Baird supported Mr. Long's contention.

Annual Dinner.—Another suggestion by Mr. Long was that the Council devote some thought to the possibility of reviving the annual dinner as a feature of Council activities. After discussion it was decided that the members be requested to express their thoughts on the question of an annual dinner or luncheon gathering at the next meeting.

The meeting terminated at 12 noon.

THE P.D.L.

Directors Meeting

The 360th meeting of the Directors of Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd., was held at 360 Swanston street, Melbourne, on April 21, at 9.45 a.m.

Present.—Mr. E. W. Braithwaite (in the chair), Messrs. W. J. Cornell, N. C. Cossar, E. A. O. Moore, F. N. Pleasance, C. C. Wallis and the Secretary. Mr. I. H. Barnes, who was co-opted at this meeting, attended after the motion for his co-option had been carried unanimously by the Directors.

Co-option of Director vice A. L. Jones, Deceased.—The Chairman reported that as instructed at the last meeting, he had communicated with Mr. I. H. Barnes, and was now able to announce his willingness to accept a seat on the Directorate of the company. Mr. Pleasance moved that the vacancy on the Directorate created by the death of Mr. A. L. Jones be filled by the co-option of Mr. Ian Hammond Barnes, of 230 Toorak road, Hartwell. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cornell, and carried. Mr. Barnes was then admitted to the Board Room and introduced and welcomed by the Chairman.

Guild Merchandising Section.—Mr. Moore reported that he had contacted Mr. R. G. Ross, Federal Merchandising Manager of the Guild, just prior to the meeting. Mr. Ross gave his assurance as regards any projected new line which the Federal Office of the Guild might consider merchandising and about which there was an insurable risk that he would get in touch with the P.D.L. before anything definite was done.

Members of the P.D.L. Directorate.—The Secretary tabled a complete list of the members who had served as Directors of the company since its incorporation in 1912, together with supplementary lists of those who had filled the offices of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. Treasurer and Secretary. The Chairman said this information would be helpful in preparing material for the historical articles to be produced for the Journal by the Public Relations Secretariat.

Correspondence.—Formal correspondence was tabled and the following were amongst the letters dealt with:

From Mr. C. C. Wallis, acknowledging message of sympathy from the last meeting. The Chairman said all were pleased to see Mr. Wallis back with them again, looking well recovered.

To Mr. B. L. Warner, advising that his request for two months leave of absence had been granted, and conveying the best wishes of the Directors.

To the Pharmaceutical Association, notifying that the P.D.L. felt it could not support the suggested change of date for the next meeting of the Association, but would prefer the decision on this matter at the Sydney conference to be adhered to.

To Mr. K. G. Attiwill, Public Relations Secretariat, forwarding suggestions approved at the last meeting of the Directors in reference to the proposed historical articles for "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy." Letter of thanks received.

To the Secretary of the Victorian Branch of the Guild, forwarding draft paragraph outlining the work

VICTORIA (Continued)

done by the P.D.L. in connection with the marking of restricted items in the recent issue of the price list. It was noted that the paragraph had been published in the March issue of "Gilseal News".

To the Federal Secretary of the Guild, forwarding six copies of the list of restricted items for identification in the next issue of the Australian Dispensing Drug Tariff.

To the M.L.C. Assurance Co. Ltd., requesting 10 copies of the current standard tables of the company. Copies received in response to this request were tabled, and one copy was handed to each of the Directors.

From the M.L.C., suggesting that a letter of appreciation be forwarded by the P.D.L. to each policy-holder in the P.D.L. Group Assurance Scheme on his taking out a new policy. The draft submitted by the M.L.C. was read. Mr. Wallis said he thought the P.D.L. should arrange some means whereby that or a similar communication could be pasted on the policy. The Secretary said if the general idea was approved he thought it could be arranged that a letter in similar terms signed by him could be despatched by the M.L.C. together with the policy. This suggestion was endorsed.

From the New South Wales Branch, advising that permission had been granted by the Local Board for publication of the text of the legal advice obtained in New South Wales dealing with first-aid treatment in open shop. The Secretary said this authority had been received after the March issue of the Journal had gone to press, consequently the material would appear in the April issue.

New Members Elected.—Messrs. D. R. Coates, Beulah; D. R. Currie, Glenroy; G. E. Gray, Swan Hill; F. H. Hodgson, East Bentleigh; F. J. Parkes, Beaumaris and C. S. Widdicombe, Croydon.

Journal Report.—Mr. Cossar in reporting on a number of matters dealt with at the last meeting of the Board of Management of the Journal, mentioned that requests for copies of the publication had been received from a number of foreign centres, amongst them a request from Zagreb, Yugoslavia. Scarcely a month passed without some such evidence of interest in the Journal from people in countries overseas.

Legal Advice.—A member faced with the imminent prospect of being required to vacate his business premises was informed of his legal position by one of the P.D.L. solicitors, who had also made representations on behalf of the member.

The Secretary said he had not heard from any of the members who had been in touch with him late in February following requests that they should tender explanations to the Commonwealth Department of Health, Victoria, in reference to alleged failure to dispense prescriptions strictly in accordance with the requirements of the prescription. The legal aspects of such committees of enquiry set up under the National Health Act had been fully covered in the editorial article in "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy" of March 30, 1954.

Sunday Hours and Trading.—Legal opinion on this matter was received and discussed, and it was resolved that further consideration be deferred to permit of the Chairman examining the provisions of the Labour and Industry Act 1953.

Suggested Claims Fund.—Information was awaited from the Victorian Branch of the Guild, showing the result of inquiries to members.

Financial.—The Hon. Treasurer presented the monthly financial statement, and accounts totalling £225/14/4 were passed for payment. It was resolved that the current surplus in the general reserve be transferred into Commonwealth Loan investment.

The meeting closed at 12.55 p.m.

QUEENSLAND

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State
News

Members desiring publication of personal items of interest are invited to write or telephone details to the Journal Correspondent in Queensland, Miss D. Brighthouse, phone B 8407.

Mr. B. H. Spilsbury is opening a pharmacy at 350 Waterworks Road, Ashgrove.

St. Vincent's Road, Banyo, has been chosen by **Mr. E. W. McCabe** for the establishment of his pharmacy.

To these new master pharmacists we extend good wishes for every success.

Mr. Ken Woods, who has been in North Queensland for some years, has sold his pharmacy at Innisfail to **Mr. E. W. Terkelsen**, of Townsville.

After many years in business at Inglewood, **Mr. J. M. Chapman** has sold his pharmacy to **Mr. C. N. Geyer**, who comes from Stanthorpe.

Mr. L. Cristaudo is opening a pharmacy at Griffiths Street, Coolangatta thus making the fourth pharmacy in the town.

Miss Pamela Lukin, who returned from overseas several months ago, left Brisbane at the end of March for America, where her marriage to **Mr. Robert Watson**, of New York City, will take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Nolan, of Ipswich, are being farewelled prior to their departure by the "Oceania" at the end of the month on an overseas holiday.

Also leaving by the "Oceania" to spend some months overseas is **Miss Adele Thomas**, of Brisbane.

Miss June Mary Beiers is another overseas traveller who leaves by the "Orsova" at the end of April.

Miss I. M. Symons of Rockhampton, proudly reports that both her apprentices were invited to Brisbane for the Queen's visit. **Miss Moya Connors** was Dux of her school, Lourdes Hill Convent, Brisbane, and so she was a guest at the Lord Mayor's Royal Ball. Another apprentice, **Miss Margaret Hale**, is a Queen's Guide and she was a member of the Guard of Honour at Government House for the Investiture.

Also among the guests at the Royal Ball was **Mr. John Gardner**, who was President of the Pharmaceutical Students' Society for 1953 and who had the honour of being the representative of the Central Technical College at this Royal function.

Mr. L. W. Smith, President of the N.S.W. Branch of the Guild, accompanied by Mrs. Smith, motored to Brisbane during the month to confer with local Guild officials.

Weddings.

In the Albert Street Methodist Church, Brisbane, on March 20, the marriage of Miss Joy Frame, of Annerley, to **Mr. E. V. Grove**, Hill End, was celebrated.

A quiet wedding took place in Toowoomba on March 27, when **Miss Ngare Searle** was married to **Mr. Graham I. Alexander**, of Maryborough. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander will make their home at Rockhampton.

At St. Stephen's Church of England, Coorparoo, on April 10, the marriage took place of **Miss Zena Edwards** to **Mr. R. A. Carter**, of Camp Hill.

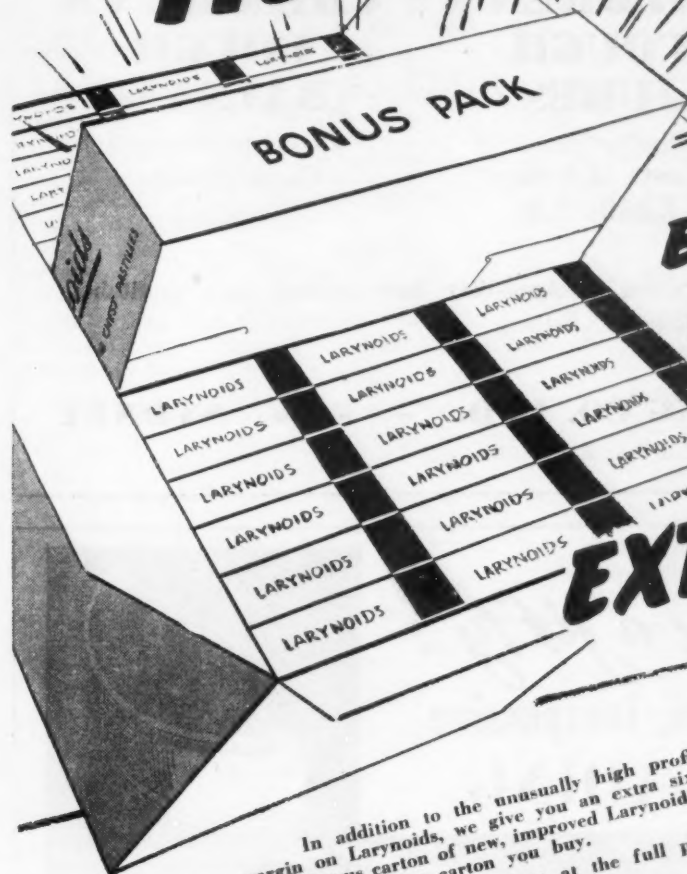
Congratulations and good wishes for the future!

OVERDOSE OF MEDICINE.

In the Brisbane Coroner's Court on April 8, it was stated to the Coroner that a man, Robert Cecil Gaston, apparently died from an overdose of medicine obtained from the Brisbane Hospital.

The medicine in question was an eight-day supply of

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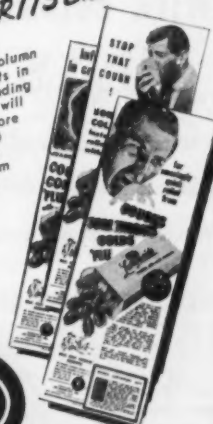
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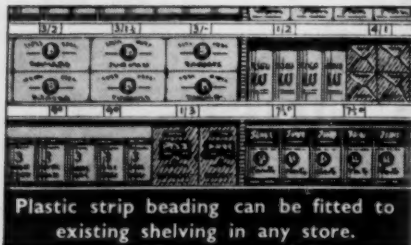
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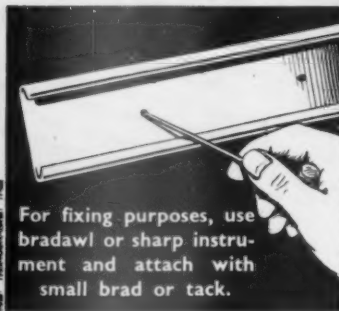
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QUEENSLAND (Continued)

a mixture containing chloral hydrate. Gaston was found dead on the day after he had obtained it. Dr. S. W. Page, of the Brisbane General Hospital, said he examined Gaston on December 20, 1953. Gaston was quite well orientated and rational. Of the chloral hydrate medicine given to Gaston only 3-1/3 oz. were found in the 16 oz. bottle. It would appear that in about 26 hours he had drunk about 12-2/3 oz. Such a dose could have proved fatal. The inquest was adjourned until next month.

ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS, QUEENSLAND.

Congratulations and good wishes for a successful and enjoyable term of office are extended to the new office-bearers of the local Association of the Women Pharmaceutical Chemists. They include:

President: Mrs. E. A. Roush.

Vice-President: Miss Betty Rowland.

Secretary: Miss Meg. Blanshard.

Assist. Secretary: Miss Betty Jebb.

Treasurer: Miss Rina Whitehead.

Members: Mrs. Carlson, Mrs. Grant-Taylor, Miss Everett and Miss Chalmers.

CHEMISTS' GOLF CLUB OUTING.

A very successful outing was enjoyed at the Redland Bay Golf Links on March 28, when 42 players faced the starter for a four ball, best ball competition. The winners were: Messrs. R. Wylie and R. Caffyn. Other results were:

A Grade Best Individual Score: B. Rickards.

B Grade Best Individual: E. Cairns.

Associates' competition was won by Mrs. A. B. Chater.

At the end of the day, prizes were presented to the winners by the President, Mr. A. B. Chater.

The next day's play will be at Nudgee Golf Links on May 16.

CHEMISTS' BOWLING CLUB.

The monthly mid-week game was played against the Windsor Club on April 7 and resulted in a narrow win for Windsor. The scores were:

	Windsor
Brown, Grimes, Ward, Pumfrey	19 18
Carroll, LeeBryce, Colledge, Bell	27 18
Lewis, Eclare, Atkins, Fitzsimmons	22 35
	68 71

Trophy spoons for the day's play were won by Bell's rink.

On April 11, at Indooroopilly, an afternoon's play was enjoyed against members of the local club. There was quite a good roll up of chemist members and here again the home side just won by a small margin. The scores:

	Indooroo- pilly
Barnett, Dunn, Crocker, Bell	26 28
Scott, Allison, Ward, Monahan	25 20
Atkins, Gillies, Colledge, Belford	28 25
Dwyer, Shearing, Easton, Lewis	19 25
Rowles, Yarrow, Neilson, Coffey	15 25
Winterflood, Sykes, Dr. Morris, Clark	25 18
	138 141

Trophy spoons were won by Monahan's rink.

On May 9 a pairs afternoon has been arranged at the Balmoral Club and the mid-week game for May will be played at Hamilton on May 12.

AMENDMENTS OF POISONS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS SCHEDULES AND REGULATIONS.

(Extract from Queensland Government Gazette, February 20, 1954.)

Department of Health and Home Affairs,
Brisbane, 18th February, 1954.

His Excellency "the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has, in pursuance of the provisions of "The Health Acts, 1937 to 1949," been pleased to approve of the following Regulations made by the Director-General of Health and Medical Services.

W. M. MOORE.

Whereas by "The Health Acts, 1937 to 1949," it is amongst other things enacted that the Director-General may make Regulations: Now, therefore, the Director-General, with the approval of the Governor in Council, doth hereby make the following Regulations:—

The Poisons Regulations of 1947 are hereby amended as follows:

Regulation 54 of "The Poisons Regulations of 1947" is amended by the deletion of the words "the case of such patient to the Director-General," and the substitution therefor of the following words, "the case and address of such patient in writing to the Director-General."

The following Regulation (65A) is inserted after Regulation 65 of the said Regulations, namely:

65A (a). No person shall sell or use in the dry or powder form for agricultural, pastoral, horticultural, domestic, or industrial purposes for the control, destruction, or prevention or growth and development of any fungus, virus, insect, mollusc, nematode, plant or animal any preparation containing any of the following poisons:—

Diethylparanitrophenylthiophosphate or its derivatives.

Di-isopropylfluorophosphonate.

Dimethylparanitrophenylthiophosphate or its derivatives.

Hexaethyltetraphosphate.

Tetraethylpyrophosphate.

(b) No person shall pack for sale or sell any liquid or emulsion preparation containing any poison listed in paragraph (a) of this regulation for any of the purposes and uses referred to therein in a package containing less than one imperial pint of such preparation.

(c) No person shall use any liquid or emulsion preparation of any poison listed in paragraph (a) of this regulation for any of the purposes and uses referred to therein, unless such preparation contains less than 0.015 parts per centum of such poison.

The following regulation (77A) is inserted after Regulation 77 of the said Regulations, namely:

77A. No person shall sell or use any electrical or other heating device for the vapourisation of any poison unless such electrical or other heating device has been approved for that purpose by the Director-General.

The following substances are added to Schedule I (Poisons) and to Schedule IV (Restricted Drugs) of "The Poisons Regulations of 1947":

Methanthalinium Bromide and its homologues.

Khellin.

The following substances are deleted from Schedule V (Dangerous Drugs):

Methadol (6-Dimethylamino-4: 4-diphenylheptan-3-ol) and its salts.

Methadyl acetate (6-Dimethylamino-4: 4-diphenyl-3-heptylacetate) and its salts.

The following substances are added to Schedule V (Dangerous Drugs):

Alpha and Beta Methadol (6-Dimethylamino-4: 4-Diphenylheptan-3-ol), their salts and derivatives.

3-Dimethyl-Amino-1, 1-Di-(2-Thienyl)-1-Butene.

3-Ethylmethylamino-1, 1-Di-(2-Thienyl)-1-Butene.

QUEENSLAND (Continued)

The following substances are deleted from Schedule III (Poisons):

Benzene, halogenated derivatives of, in substances containing more than 10 per cent. of such poisons.

The following substances are added to Schedule III (Poisons):

Halogenated cyclic organic compounds, including Aldrin, Chlordane, D.D.T., Dieldrin, Gammexane, in substances containing more than 10 per cent. of such poisons.

The foregoing Regulations were made by me on the sixteenth day of February, 1954.

A. FRYBERG,

Director-General of Health and Medical Services.

W. W. MOORE,

Secretary for Health and Home Affairs.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland met at Drysdale Chambers, 4 Wickham street, Brisbane, on April 8, at 8 p.m.

Attendance.—Mr. R. V. S. Martin (Chairman), Mrs. L. Carlson, Miss E. Chalmers, Messrs. V. Barnett, R. S. F. Greig, H. G. E. Sneyd, R. G. Gardner, J. S. Mellick, J. E. McCaskie, E. W. Vance, A. B. Williams and the Assistant Secretary.

Correspondence.—To Department of Public Health, Queensland, enquiring if it would be possible for the Department to notify this Society of amendments of the Poisons Regulations as they become effective from time to time. Asking if up-to-date lists of amendments to the schedules since the compilation of the current Poisons Regulations could be provided. It was reported that to date no reply had been received, but back numbers of gazettes had been supplied.

To Registrar, Pharmacy Board of Queensland, enquiring if the Board would approach the Central Technical College requesting that if possible masters of apprentices in the Brisbane area be advised of the timetable appertaining to each student. Reply advising that the action suggested is not within the province of the Board.

After discussion it was resolved that a letter be sent to the Central Technical College, stating that the matter concerning the attendance of apprentices at College has been brought to the notice of the Pharmaceutical Society, and asking if they could advise if each student is provided with a copy of the time-table which they could show to their masters at the beginning of each year.

Letters to chemists in the Rockhampton District, concerning the flood damage in the Rockhampton district, and offering assistance should they have suffered in any way. Numerous letters had been received in reply from members in the Rockhampton district. All advised that they were most fortunate to have escaped damage, and thanked the Society for its offer of assistance.

Letters to the "Courier-Mail" and "Telegraph" newspapers, advising that Mr. R. V. S. Martin has been appointed liaison between this organisation and the press.

The Fisher Scientific Company, U.S.A., asking the company to supply particulars concerning cost and entry of its Atomic Model Kit into Australia.

Director of Industrial Medicine, enquiring the chemical structure of "1080," also symptoms of poisoning should the general public come into contact with it, and also any antidotes if any are known. Reply forwarding notes furnishing information the Society was

seeking. The Secretary was directed to write to Dr. Gordon, the Director of Industrial Medicine, thanking him for his assistance.

From Registrar, Pharmacy Board of Queensland, forwarding results of Intermediate Examination held by the Board in February, 1954.

From Department of Public Health, advising that preparations containing Phenylephrin for local application are not restricted. Phenylephrin is regarded as a substitute for ephedrine rather than for adrenalin.

British Medical Association, acknowledging our letter with reference to the Prescription Proprietaries Card Service, and advising that the matter will be brought before the notice of members who may be interested in subscribing to this service.

From the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia, conveying suggestion that the next P.A.A. conference be held immediately following Section "O" of the A.N.Z.A.A.S., to be held in Melbourne in August, 1955. Mr. Greig moved that the Association be advised that this organisation is agreeable to the P.A.A. conference being held immediately following Section "O," to be held in Melbourne in August, 1955. Seconded by Mr. Vance. Carried.

From Pharmacy Board of Victoria, forwarding survey re the distribution and wastage of qualified personnel in pharmacy.

Standards Association of Australia, forwarding draft specification re dispensing measures for pharmaceutical purposes. Mr. Greig moved that the Association be advised that the Society is satisfied with the standards as set out. Seconded by Mr. Barnett. Carried.

Unfinancial Members.—The Hon. Treasurer presented a list of members who have not yet paid their current subscription. It was agreed that final notices be sent to the members listed, and that the Journal be notified to stop sending Journals as from April 1.

New Members Elected.—Mr. E. W. McCabe, Banyo; Mr. R. J. Nance, East Coorparoo; Miss R. McLeod, Maryborough and Miss S. B. Trotter, Annerley.

Reports.—Mr. Sneyd reported on the contents of the current issue of the "A.J.P.," and Mr. Williams on the November, December and January issues of "Pharmacy International."

Pharmacy Board.—Mr. Martin gave the Pharmacy Board report, and outlined matters which the Board had been dealing with lately.

Education Meeting.—Mr. Martin said that at a combined meeting of the Society and Guild Committees a resolution had been passed that a circular be sent to chemists for perusal and for them to say whether they were in favour of the proposed course of study. A draft copy was now in the hands of the executive of the two associations, and it was intended to send one to every registered chemist in Queensland. The matter of personnel for the deputation to present the case to the Minister had not been decided.

Poisons Regulations.—Mr. Martin said the latest amendments to the Poisons Regulations Clause 77A state that no person shall sell or use any electrical or other heating device for the vaporisation of any poison unless such electrical or other heating device has been approved for that purpose by the Director-General. Mr. Martin said it was not certain what was intended by this clause, and he suggested that the Discussion Group be asked if they could supply the names of drugs which came under Section 77A.

Mr. Greig moved that a letter be sent to the Department of Health asking what is intended by Regulation 77A, 2-2-54, page 471, and to what chemical it would apply. Mr. Barnett seconded. Carried.

Mention of Drugs in Press.—Miss Chalmers drew attention to the fact that the names of drugs had been mentioned in the press recently in connection with various cases. Mr. Martin advised that the matter had been sent to Mr. Attiwill for his attention.

Mr. Barnett's Visit to N.S.W.—Mr. Barnett gave a brief outline of his visit to the Council of the N.S.W. Society. He said the problems confronting that

QUEENSLAND (Continued)

Society were much the same as ours, and they had been talking of a summer camp. Mr. Cutler would probably be coming to Queensland in June. Mr. Greig moved that an invitation be extended to Mr. Cutler to address the Society, and that he be asked to notify when he was likely to be in Brisbane. Seconded by Mr. Barnett. Carried.

Pharmacists' Picnic.—Mr. Gardner said it had been decided to hold the picnic on the May holiday weekend, but they now found that this would occur during the school holidays. After discussion it was agreed that the date be put back until May 23.

Mr. McCaskie suggested Eaton's Crossing as the site for the picnic. Mr. Greig seconded. Carried.

Mr. Nolan's Overseas Visit.—Mr. Vance advised that Mr. G. Nolan of Ipswich would be visiting England, and suggested that he be given a letter of introduction to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Mr. Martin said the Society would be happy to do so.

The meeting closed at 10.45 p.m.

THE GUILD

S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the Queensland Branch of the Guild met at Drysdale's Chambers, Wickham street, Brisbane, on April 6, at 8 p.m.

Attendance.—Messrs. W. A. Lenehan (Chairman), C. A. Nichol, J. J. Delahunty, L. Hall, G. Nolan, C. W. Noble, A. B. Chater, A. Bell, F. H. Phillips and the Assistant Secretary.

Visitor.—Mr. E. W. Vance, of Ipswich. The Chairman, extending a welcome to Mr. Vance, said the committee were very pleased to have him with them, and he hoped that Mr. Vance would enter into discussions if he so wished. Mr. Vance thanked the Committee for giving him the opportunity to attend the meeting.

P.A.T.A.—Mr. Delahunty gave a resume of matters which had been engaging the attention of P.A.T.A. during the month.

Chemists' Assistants' Award.—The Chairman advised that a meeting had been called to meet Mr. Self of the Employers' Federation, but owing to the margins case coming before the Court the meeting had to be cancelled, and Mr. Self would be contacting the Guild at a later date.

New Members Elected.—Messrs. A. M. McFarlane, Stones Corner; E. W. McCabe, Banyo; N. F. Maikie, Mareeba and R. J. Nance, Coorparoo.

Correspondence.—To Federal Secretary, stating that at the last Pricing Officers' Conference it had been decided that Ol. Pini Sylvestis be listed in the Guild Drug List, but to date it had not been included. Reply advising that this matter had been overlooked, and that steps would be taken to include the drug in the next issue of the Drug List.

(2) Re name for the new Guild building, advising that members did not think the word "Guild" should be used because it did not have any significant meaning—the word could refer to any guild. Suggesting that the name Pharmacy House or Pharmacy Hall be recommended, as such name would connect the building with the pharmaceutical profession.

To Mr. K. G. Attiwill, advising that Mr. F. H. Phillips had been appointed liaison between this State and Mr. Attiwill in connection with a series of articles of biographical sketches of the contemporary leaders of pharmacy in Australia.

To Director-General, Health and Medical Services, pointing out that a large store in a country town is selling Olazine at its grocery counter, and as stores holding poison licenses within a certain radius of a pharmacy are only permitted to sell such preparations,

it would be appreciated if notice could be drawn to this matter. Reply advising that this matter has been investigated and that the store concerned is the holder of a current licence (K) for the sale of agricultural, pastoral and horticultural poisons, and is complying with the requirements of the Poisons Regulations, and is entitled to sell Olazine as a pest exterminator. A "C" licence has been confused with a "K" licence.

After discussion it was resolved that the chemists of the town be contacted asking if they sell Olazine as a horticultural poison, and whether they get signatures in the Poisons Book, and if the store concerned does likewise.

To Federal Merchandising Manager, forwarding copy of letter received from Mr. E. Collins, seeking the Guild's assistance in having hearing aids supplied through the Government. The Secretary reported that a letter had been received from "Australaid" advising that Mr. Ross had forwarded them a copy of Mr. Collins' letter, and they had replied to Mr. Collins, advising him along similar lines to those set out to him by the Guild.

To Mr. L. W. Smith, State President, N.S.W. Branch, thanking him for his thoughtful gesture in offering to assist and guide the committee in connection with the application of the Chemists' Assistants' Union for increased wages; advising that the Committee would be pleased to have his assistance, and would advise him further. Mr. Lenehan said he would be contacting Mr. Self of the Employers' Federation in connection with this matter so that he could advise Mr. Smith when it was likely that the meeting would take place.

Mr. Vance said he was disturbed by the wages that assistants were demanding, and he thought the Guild should send out a notice asking members to abide by the award. After discussion, Mr. Vance was asked to submit an article setting out his ideas so that the Guild could give the matter consideration.

To N.S.W. Branch, conveying congratulations to members of the Pricing Committee and those officers responsible for the publication of the latest retail price list. It was stated that the Committee felt that if its recommendations could be incorporated in subsequent editions the N.S.W. Branch would have produced a first-class list. Reply advising they were delighted to hear that the Committee was pleased with the new retail price list, that the Committee's recommendations would be subjected to scrutiny and they would let us know the result.

Mr. Chater said he would like to see the list printed on better paper, and the ethical list included in the body of the book. Mr. Chater put these suggestions forward as recommendations.

Mr. Noble said if the list was printed on better paper it would increase the cost, and he inquired if N.S.W. would be prepared to ask their members to pay more.

Mr. Chater passed round the table a copy of the Victorian Retail Price List which he had received.

Members agreed that if the recommendations forwarded from this Branch were included in the price list supplied by N.S.W. the publication would be further improved. Mr. Noble suggested we write to N.S.W. and ask if it would be possible to have the Queensland lists printed on better paper.

After discussion, Mr. Chater moved that the Victorian Branch be asked to forward a copy of their price lists and amendments to Mr. A. Bell, and advise that this Branch would be prepared to meet the cost of same. Seconded by Mr. Phillips. Carried.

To Central Technical College, requesting them to institute a supplementary examination to be held a few weeks before the commencement of the second year lectures, to enable students who fail in a subject or subjects at the College examination held at the end of the first year to have the opportunity to continue with the second year of study. It was pointed out that post examinations are conducted by the University to enable students to qualify for continuing with their course. If the Central Technical College could establish

QUEENSLAND (Continued)

a similar examination for first year students it would be a great advantage to many.

To the Registrar, Pharmacy Board, Queensland, forwarding copy of letter sent to the Principal, Central Technical College. Mr. Nolan moved that the Guild representative on the Board be instructed to ask the Board to support the Guild's request. Seconded by Mr. Delahunty. Carried.

Mr. Hall said the Society representative on the Board should be asked to support the Guild representative. After discussion, Mr. Hall moved that the Guild send the Society a copy of the letter. Seconded by Mr. Nolan. Carried.

To Pharmaceutical Association, advising that the Committee considers it preferable if Section "O" is held prior to the Pharmaceutical Association Conference as has been the practice over many years.

To "Courier-Mail" and "Telegraph" newspapers, forwarding particulars of chemists' trading hours for the Easter period.

To "Truth" newspaper, advising that Mr. W. A. Lenehan has been appointed liaison officer between this organisation and the press.

To Taxation Standing Committee, advising that Mr. C. W. Noble and Mr. A. Bell have been appointed as Guild representatives.

From Federal Merchandising Service, advising that British Medical Laboratories have recently placed a new product on the market under the name of "Menthoid Cream." The mark-up allowed to chemists is 33½ per cent. Mr. Noble moved and Mr. Nolan seconded that the company be written to asking for higher mark-up on this product.

From a country member, stating that many are complaining of the slowness with which claims are met by the Medical Benefits Fund of Australia. Through this a lot of goodwill was being lost by the fund, and this rebounded against the agents. Suggesting that the Guild make representations to this fund concerning this matter. Mr. Lenehan said he had been speaking to a representative of the fund, and he advised that they were trying very hard to overcome the lag. The fund was now able to pay within three weeks, and it was hoped that when they got into their new building they would be able to meet claims within ten days or a fortnight.

From Victorian State Branch Committee, advising that the Victorian Branch is now marketing Aller-Ban, and enquiring if this State would be interested in marketing this line also. After brief discussion, Mr. Nolan moved that the matter be left in the hands of the Packed Goods Sub-Committee. Seconded by Mr. Chater. Carried.

From Federal Merchandising Service, advising that Colgate-Palmolive is instituting a new system for checking goods received from the company.

From Federal Secretary, requesting committee to revise by-laws, bringing them up to date, in accordance with the present Constitution and Rules of the Guild, for submission to the Federal Council for approval. Mr. Nolan moved that this matter be left in the hands of the Executive. Seconded by Mr. Hall. Carried.

Mr. Nolan's Visit Overseas.—The Chairman said that in the near future Mr. Nolan would be leaving for a trip overseas. He thought it would be a fitting gesture from this Committee if Mr. Nolan was granted leave of absence, and that he be furnished with a letter from the Committee introducing him wherever he might go, advising that the Committee would appreciate any courtesies extended to him. Mr. Delahunty moved to this effect. Seconded by Mr. Nichol. Carried. Mr. Lenehan said he wished Mr. Nolan and his wife a very enjoyable trip. Mr. Nolan thanked the Committee for its sentiments.

Federal Delegate's Report.—Mr. Nichol gave the Committee further information on the survey of the Sulphonamides. Discussion took place concerning the survey. Mr. Chater moved and Mr. Phillips seconded that the delegate's report be received.

M.L.C. Insurance Scheme.—Mr. Lenehan said he had been contacted by a representative of the Mutual Life & Citizens Insurance Company Ltd., which was offering a new scheme and wanted the Guild's permission to publish an article similar to the one they previously issued. Mr. Lenehan said the previous scheme was for Guild chemists, but the new scheme would be for all chemists.

It was suggested that the Guild should withdraw its permission seeing that the scheme is open to all. After the matter had been discussed further, Mr. Phillips moved and Mr. Hall seconded that it remain on the table for perusal.

Richard Hudnut's "Light and Bright."—Mr. Lenehan advised that a wholesale representative had called on him offering "Light and Bright," and he was told that it could only be purchased in half-dozen lots. Mr. Lenehan said he did not think it right for the companies to dictate to the chemists. Mr. Nichol moved that the Guild write to the Richard Hudnut Company advising that it objects to the principle of forcing chemists to buy more than they require. Seconded by Mr. Noble. Carried.

Education Report.—Mr. Lenehan reported that the Executive of the Society and Guild had met, and had prepared a tentative petition. This would be sent out in the very near future.

Customer Traffic.—Mr. Hall said he wondered if the Guild could have a brochure printed to hand to customers to attract customer traffic back to the pharmacies. For some time chemists had been losing customers to the general stores, and should try to draw such customers back to the pharmacy. Perhaps Mr. Attiwill could be asked to write the story for them.

Mr. Lenehan said we should give this suggestion some thought, and they could approach Mr. Attiwill when he came to Brisbane.

Mr. Bell expressed the opinion that the day of the pamphlet was over, and that radio advertising was the better way.

The meeting closed at 11 p.m.

STILL TIME TO CONTROL BLACK DISEASE

Did you lose any sheep or cattle from "snake-bite" this year? It is more likely they died from Black Disease. Some sheepowners failed to vaccinate their sheep for black disease in December and already have lost a number of animals. Now they are vaccinating for the disease, and drenching for fluke with carbon tetrachloride. These animals could have been saved. It takes two or three weeks for the black disease vaccine to become fully effective. In future, therefore, vaccinate in early December and prevent losses.

Although the season is now well advanced it is advisable to vaccinate at once if you have not already done so. Drench for fluke, too. You can buy the vaccine at a chemist's shop, or at some stock agents and stores.

Mr. Evan Brough, veterinary officer of the Department of Agriculture, Kerang, advises injection of 2 c.c. vaccine under the skin, **not** into the muscle. Several suitable sites may be used—inside the elbow or thigh, or along the hair-line of the tail. A little practice is necessary if you have not done the job before. Use two or three 18-gauge 1-inch or 1½-inch hypodermic needles. Keep them in methylated spirit and change frequently. Remove grease and dirt from the animal's skin with tincture of Iodine. The job is easy and cheap. The cost of one lamb saved will vaccinate nearly 1000 sheep.—"News Bulletin" No. 503, Department of Agriculture, Victoria, 23/3/54.



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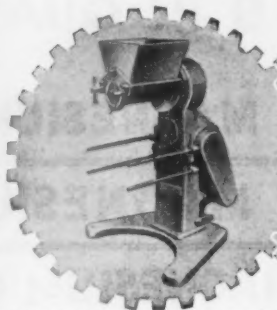
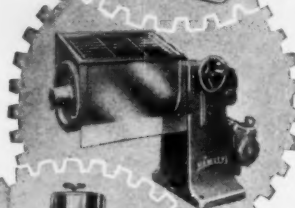
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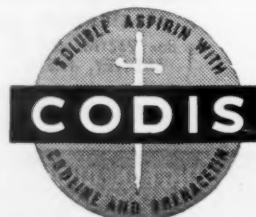
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